

The Middlebury Campus

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Swipe System to be Implemented

By Emily Singer

In an effort to cut costs and reduce waste, the College will be reorganizing top-level management positions and introducing a one-card swipe system within Dining Services. The restructuring comes after discussions with consulting firm Sodexo in the fall.

According to Vice President for Finance and Treasurer Patrick Norton, Sodexo was brought in because he and others "identified that there were issues around systems and general management that needed to be corrected." Sodexo is a major player in the food service field that also offers management services. The firm is present among many local institutions, including University of Vermont, Chaplain College and Saint Michael's College.

Though at the conclusion of Sodexo's stay, the College decided not to employ the firm's outside management, the company's findings still proved to be valuable.

"[The Sodexo report] validated our thoughts," Norton said. "You have a hypothesis and you test it. And the hypothesis was that we had issues around some systems and some general management and that's what came back to us."

IMPLEMENTING A SWIPE SYSTEM

As one of the only colleges in the nation without a swipe-based meal plan, the College does not have a concrete method of determining the number of students who eat in the dining halls. Norton said that down the road, the College will likely implement a one-card system.

Discussions regarding the one-card system are still in preliminary stages. Norton clarified that intro-

ducing a one-card swipe system does not necessarily mean that the College is moving to a meal plan system, and there will be no limit to a student's number of daily swipes.

"What the swipe card does is that it eliminates folks who aren't students from going into our dining halls and eating," Norton said. "That's an issue. It's hard to determine how pervasive the issue is, but it's an issue. We've heard anecdotally that there are folks from outside who go into our dining halls and eat, and when you have an open system, that's what happens."

Initially, the swipe system will allow Dining Services to ensure that those eating in the dining halls are members of the College community and that guests pay the rarely-enforced five dollar breakfast, seven dollar lunch and nine dollar dinner fees.

While dining hall swipes are likely to be unlimited when the one-card system is introduced, students can have the option of putting points on their card and using it for purchases at the bookstore or at on-campus retail operations such as the Grille or Crossroads. Such a system is widely employed at schools across the nation and was once used at the College too.

A decade ago, the College employed a home-grown credit system, much like a credit card, that was used in the dining halls and food retail operations. Students were able to purchase items at The Grille and the cost was added to the end-of-semester bill. Additionally, the College issued faculty and staff members credit cards, the charges of which were deducted from their paychecks.

SEE DINING, PAGE 3



JOANN TAYLOR

Students celebrated the launch of MiddSafe with advocates and faculty advisors in Crossroads.

Sexual Assault Hotline Goes Live

By Emily Singer

On Jan. 24, students and faculty+ gathered in Crossroads to celebrate the launch of MiddSafe, the College's first 24/7 sexual assault hotline.

MiddSafe has been in the works for several years and marks a critical development in the College's programming to prevent sexual assault on campus. The long-awaited activation of the hotline was made possible by both the help of a grant from the Department of Justice and the hiring of a Health and Wellness Education Director, Barbara McCall, at the start of the academic year.

The Task Force on the Status of Women Report from 2008 recommended the introduction of a sexual assault advocacy program. In the wake of the report, the Sexual Assault Oversight Committee (SAOC) was founded and has been planning

the sexual assault hotline ever since.

The hotline takes the form of a cell phone passed between advocates and is confidential, except in situations where the caller poses a risk to him or herself or others.

Last spring, the SAOC issued a call for student advocates to staff the hotline. Applications were reviewed by Director of Chellis House Karin Hanta and Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life Karen Guttentag, who then selected 15 students to undergo advocate training. The advocates underwent 20 hours of training that included webinars from the Department of Justice, conversations with staff members at Parton Health Center, Counseling Services and the Chaplain's office.

McCall's presence on campus acted as a catalyst for the development of the hotline, as the role of Director and Health and Wellness had

remained unfilled for two years.

"When I arrived this summer, students had already been selected [as advocates], they had gone through an interview process with members of the SAOC, and I really had this summer to get to know them, get to know the history of the program, plan the training and then get everybody trained when folks returned in the fall," McCall said.

"We spent a lot of the fall semester working out the kinks and details and the kinds of things that, when you're writing a program plan, you might not actually think of until you're in the thick of actually trying to get things to happen."

McCall noted that planning for the hotline involved looking at peer institutions conducting similar work, noting Harvard, Amherst and

SEE MIDDSAFE, PAGE 2

2013.5 SKIS OFF INTO THE SUNSET



COURTESY PHOTO

Daniel Loehr '13.5 gave the student address to 126 fellow graduates and their guests in Mead Chapel on Feb. 1. The graduates then trekked to the College Snow Bowl for a ski in their caps and gowns.

STEM-Focused Posse Announced

By Ellie Reinhardt

In September 2015, the College will welcome 10 new Posse students from Los Angeles who have shown an interest in pursuing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines. The Posse Foundation announced its decision in Jan. 2014 to double the number of Posse partner schools focused in the STEM fields. These new Posse students will be added to a class of 20 Posse students from the College's existing partnerships with the New York and Chicago Posse programs.

This addition stems from President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama's initiative to improve the training and education of STEM students across the country. The College was one of five new colleges and universities selected to join an existing five schools partnered with STEM Posse. Over the next five years, these ten schools will provide 500

urban students of different backgrounds with four years worth of full scholarships. The funding will total \$70 million and come from a variety of institutions.

"I'm really honored as a Posse alum and as Dean of the College that we were picked by the Posse Foundation," said Dean of the College Shirley Collado. "They have over forty colleges that they could have picked and they looked to Middlebury as a place where Posse scholars are thriving and as a place that was demonstrating deep commitment to wanting to improve what we're doing in the sciences and for STEM students."

The Posse foundation recruits students who exhibit excellent leadership and academic promise from nine urban locations across the country and matches them with top tier institutions, to provide an otherwise unattainable academic experience for students.

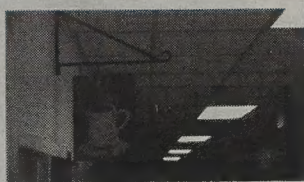
"[The Posse students] have

SEE NEW, PAGE 4

INSIDE



SKIING TRAGEDIES SHAKE COMMUNITY
PAGE 6



MIDDLEBURY'S DIVERSIFIED OCCUPATIONS PROGRAM
PAGE 14



REVIEW OF LES MISÉRABLES AT THE TOWN HALL THEATRE
PAGE 17

MiddSafe to Provide Peer Guidance

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Castleton State as local or peer schools with particularly robust hotline programs.

"Really, it was about figuring out what makes sense for our community, what makes sense for Middlebury," McCall said. "Sometimes that was really close to what someone else was doing, and then there were other times that we had to make it fit us from scratch. So there's been a bit of borrowing from past ideas and past knowledge, and also using what we know about Middlebury."

The student advocates applied for the program because they believed it filled a void in the College's current system dealing with sexual assault, and because it has the potential to change on-campus attitudes toward sexual assault.

"I had been frustrated by the sexual assault awareness program during orientation and talked to Karin Hanta and Karen Guttentag about it and they both let me know when this program came up," said MiddSafe advocate Rebecca Coates-Fincke '16.5. "I thought it was a really good way to launch myself into this part of campus that's working toward prevention and support, and I think it's really helpful for people to know that they have peers available to help."

Fellow advocate Sophie Kligler '15 noted that the SAOC has developed a number of programs to raise awareness of and prevent sexual assault, but none that are based on peer support. The peer support component and the potential to create meaningful change led her to apply to be an advocate.

The goal of MiddSafe is not to tell callers what they should do next. Rather, the advocates seek to affirm students and allow them to make their own decisions.

"We're not in the business of making any decisions for anybody," Alex Strott '15 said. "We're just there to let people know what all of their options are, so we might ask them what they need from us, what kind of information they're looking for, give them options and let them make their own decisions and point them toward the appropriate resources."

Coates-Fincke added that, above all, the MiddSafe advocates are here to listen.

"We're available just to take down people's stories... to hear people. If someone needs to call and just tell a voice that this happened to them, we're available to take down that story, which I think is important to bear witness," she said.

MiddSafe's reach is expected to extend beyond the hotline, as private consultations with peer advocates are available and students can approach advocates in person or set up informal meetings.

Advocates and advisors expect MiddSafe to evolve to meet the needs of the community.

"I think the programmatic piece is something that we're going to figure out as we move through," McCall said. "We also want to put some information out to campus — what do folks need to know about sexual assault in our community, how can they be thinking about best ways to care for themselves and care for friends? I think there are going to be a lot of ways for MiddSafe to insert itself as a proactive, positive force into a lot of the conversations that are already happening on campus."

The program is expected to expand both its reach and its number of advocates. McCall said that MiddSafe did receive several applications from men, and that the potential male advocates simply decided not to continue with joining the program.

"Our goal for next year is definitely to reach out to the male community on campus because this isn't just a female issue," Kligler said.

Programming throughout the year — especially during first-year orientations — will be integral in spreading awareness of MiddSafe's presence on campus.

"We'll certainly be talking about what kind of role MiddSafe could play in orientation, and especially during those first six weeks [on campus]," McCall said. "For example, how advocates can remain most visible to students as we introduce [new students] to our community and talk about ways to stay safe and ways to get support when they need it."

To reach MiddSafe, call 802-377-0239

Summer Enviro. Curriculum Revealed

By David Yang

The Middlebury School of the Environment will open its doors to students for the first time this summer. The intensive six-week program promises to give students not only a rigorous interdisciplinary training in environmental studies but also invaluable leadership and entrepreneurial skills necessary to promote social change.

While the program will be inaugurated for the first time this summer, faculty members have been working to develop it for several years. In 1994, President John McCardell identified the study of the environment as one of five peaks of excellence of the college and a 1995 taskforce suggested the creation of a summer school of the environment. The College's environmental studies program, founded in 1965, is the oldest of such programs in the US.

"For the last eighteen years we have worked to see how such a program could be offered, where it would be offered, what the pros and cons were and what the curriculum might look like," said Professor of Environmental and Biosphere Studies and the Director of the Middlebury School of the Environment Stephen Trombulak. "It all finally all came together last year and the trustees approved our proposal last May."

The College has been holding summer courses for a long time. The School of German was established almost a century ago in 1915 and the Bread Loaf School of English has been in session every summer since 1920. By accepting students from around the country, the summer programs expand the College's educational reach.

"It seemed like a natural fit to develop a Bread Loaf and Language School-like summer program that focused on the environment," Trombulak said.

"... a high quality education that focuses on cutting-edge curricula related to understanding the relationship between humans and the environment."

STEPHEN TROMBULAK
DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Students in the program will take three interdisciplinary courses. All students will enroll in a Sustainability Practicum and a course titled Interdisciplinary Understanding of Place: Lake Champlain. In addition to the two required courses, each student is free to choose a Global Perspectives elective with topics such as international environmental negotiation and conservation planning.

"The goal of the program is to offer students a high quality education that focuses on cutting-edge curricula related to understanding the relationship between the humans and the environment," Trombulak said.

The curriculum is set up to combine the knowledge base of environmental studies with the practical leadership and entrepreneurial skills necessary to promote social change after the completion of the

program.

"We want the curriculum to reflect not just the knowledge base necessary to be effective at addressing environmental issues in the twenty-first century but also the skills base for doing it so the kinds of leadership and communication and project management skills," Trombulak said.

"The goal isn't to produce activists ... What it is about is giving students the skills they need to succeed professionally in whatever domain they choose to pursue whether it is business, government, education or non-profit organizations."

The blend of academics and practical skills is an attraction of the program.

"I am hoping to get the opportunity to get to know some folks from other schools who are also interested in environmental

studies and about to jump off into the world to try and make it a better place," wrote Isaac Baker '15, an environmental studies non-fiction major who has applied to the program, in an email. "I [hope to] explore the MiddCORE-like personal development that the program is said to offer — I don't fully know what that will look like but I am curious to find out."

The curriculum also represents a combination of science and the humanities, which the environmental studies program at the College emphasizes during the school year. All environmental studies majors must take a core course titled Nature's Meanings: American Experiences, which includes readings of authors like Emerson, Thoreau and Muir. Those who major in environmental studies must also take their cognates, or electives, outside of the natural sciences. This emphasis on the humanities stems from the realization that environmental issues have to do with mankind's relationship with the environment.

The course about Lake Champlain, in particular, embodies the interdisciplinary nature of the study of the environment.

"The sources of environmental challenges and the solutions inherently have both cultural and ecological roots and constraints it is unavoidably and inarguably true that to be able to chart an environmental future that works for humans and non-humans alike you have to be able to understand both the cultural narrative and the ecological narrative of a place," said Trombulak. "It doesn't make any sense to talk about water pollution control or fisheries management in Lake Champlain if you don't understand both the human story and the ecological story."

The priority deadline for School of the Environment applications is Feb. 15 and the program officially begins on June 20.

"It's going to be an intensive experience in and out of the classroom," wrote Baker, "I'm looking forward to diving in deep."

YouPower Struggles to Spin Wheels

By Allie Cohen

After leadership changes at the end of last year rendered the YouPower bike room nearly forgotten, new management and programming boosted bike use during J-term.

YouPower was founded in 2012 by a group of students who turned to Mid-dSTART, the College's microphilanthropy network, to raise money for 10 spin bikes linked to generators to be connected to the College's energy grid. Watt-hours produced by students riding the bikes go directly into powering the College.

Located in the Freeman International Center, the YouPower bike room has been used for individual riding sessions, free student-led classes, private classes and Watt-A-Thons — relay-style events in which teams compete to produce the largest amount of energy in a set period of time.

YouPower's struggle stems from a lack of continuity. In the past, seniors would assume leadership roles, spend several months organizing classes and schedules and then graduate, leaving YouPower without a leader. This year alone, YouPower classes did not begin until November.

After this period of uncertainty, Nan Philip '16.5 and Spencer Petterson '14 are at the helm of YouPower and are working to improve programming, increase regular use and set future goals.

Petterson first became involved with YouPower in Fall 2012 when she served as an instructor. After a call for new managers went out over the summer, she decided to seek a leadership position.

"It was something that I really didn't want to see die," Spencer said noting the ecological impact YouPower can have and the value of it being a student-run initiative.

"It took a while for us to get it [YouPower] reorganized," said Philip, who cited a

string of miscommunications and misunderstandings as a roadblock to YouPower's success.

In spite of past struggles, a recent boost in support has left Philip optimistic about YouPower's future. Petterson noted Operations and Events Manager Franklin Dean-Farrar and members of the Student Government Association (SGA) who helped to boost operations and instructing YouPower's leaders on exercise safety rules and regulations.

The location of the YouPower bike room on the north end of campus, adjacent to Ross, Coffrin, Atwater and the Chateau, offers an alternative to the athletic center.

"The YouPower room is a great alternative to the gym, especially because I live in Ross and that's a long, cold walk in the winter," said Rachel Kinney '16.5, who plans to use YouPower throughout the spring semester.

As of Jan. 23, 323 students used YouPower during J-term, with most staying on the bikes for 30-60 minutes. The average watt-hours generated by students in an hour-long session is enough to power two 60-watt light bulbs for an hour.

YouPower currently has six student-instructors registered, some of whom are officially certified to teach classes and others who are merely passionate about spinning. Philip and Petterson are looking to expand their roster and bring on new leadership. Information about YouPower student-led courses, open ride hours and becoming involved with the bike room can be found at go/youpower.

"It's cool ... to think about the amount of energy needed for even the simplest things," Petterson said. "It's amazing to realize that after I turn my lights off, I would have to bike for an hour just to get them running again for that amount of time."



FILE PHOTO

YouPower hopes to ensure future leadership and boost programming this spring.

CCI Hosts Media Alumni Panel

By Renee Chang

On February 14, the Center for Careers & Internships (CCI) will unveil the inaugural *UpNext* speakers series, a faculty-moderated career panel that brings Middlebury alumni from different industries to campus to share their work experience with students. This week's event focuses on media and entertainment.

Jeff Sawyer, CCI Director of Employer Outreach and Development, says the series is unlike any other in that it "brings three constituencies together, as students, faculty and employers converse about topics and common interests within a single industry."

The panel on Friday will be moderated by Professor of English and American Literatures Timothy Billings and will feature a diverse lineup of alumni panelists, including Katherine Davis '87, a Political Science and French major and current *60 Minutes* producer; Rick Holzman '87, a Political Science major and Executive Vice President of Programming and Strategy at Animal Planet; Richard Coolidge '87, a Political Science/French double major, and ABC News producer; Beth Levison '91, a Geography/Italian major and documentary filmmaker; and recent alumna, Christine Schozer '13, an Economics major and production assistant at Peacock Productions, an NBCUniversal production company.

Although the first *UpNext* event centers on careers in media and entertainment, Sawyer wants Middlebury students to look beyond the common perceptions of the industry.

"The series – and Friday's panel – is in-

tended to build awareness in students so they have a nuanced understanding of the various components of the career paths they might pursue," Sawyer said. "I want students to envision the breadth of jobs in the media industry: there are careers beyond the two obvious jobs of production and journalism."

Similarly, Schozer '13 – a production assistant for Peacock Productions in New York – notes the importance of keeping an open mind when searching for internships and eventually jobs.

"I started off as an Economics major with an interest in finance, but chose not to travel that path," Schozer said. "I began to consider marketing and production, given that many of the jobs intertwine my organization and planning strengths. After reaching out to alumni through MiddyNet, I found an internship at NBC during my junior year, which really sparked my interest in production. To me, the 'UpNext' series is a great opportunity for students to realize the opportunities that exist and create interest networks within media and entertainment companies."

Recently, Schozer has worked on variety of projects including NBC's "The Making of the Sound of Music Live!" and "Skywire Live!," a Discovery Channel live event covering Nik Wallenda's walk across the Grand Canyon on a tightrope. Gretchen Eisele '90 was executive producer of "Skywire Live!," which had 21 million viewers and won a 2013 Emmy for Best Live Performance.

"During *The Sound of Music* documentary, I got the opportunity to interact and listen to

people who truly excel in their industry, such as with Neil Meron, the executive producer, David Chase, a top musical director on Broadway, Beth McCarthy Miller, a Saturday Night Live television director, and Rob Ashford, a renowned Broadway director," Schozer said.

When asked what advice she would give students interested in pursuing internships and career paths, Schozer encourages students to identify their strengths and interests. "If you don't know what you want to do, try something that fits your skill set. If you don't try, you don't know."

Susan Walker, Associate Director of Career Services at the CCI, urges students to use the *UpNext* series as a comfortable setting "to put themselves forward to alumni as a means of motivating the career discovery process."

Similarly, Sawyer encourages students to question what exactly employers are looking for in order to effectively apply for and take advantage of opportunities.

Friday's signature *UpNext* event will be held at 5 p.m. in Axinn 229. Students are also welcome to attend additional information sessions about working at NBC Peacock Productions and Discovery and an informal lunch – by RSVP on MOJO – with the alumni panelists on Saturday in Ross' Fireside Lounge.

"[Future *UpNext* sessions will likely be] a robust cross-section of industries that touches all corners of the student body," Sawyer said. "With a focus on industries such as social and human services, the scientific aspect of health-care services, government, and education."

upnext



Richard Coolidge



Katherine Davis



Rick Holzman



Beth Levison



Christine Schozer

Dining Revamping Systems

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to Norton, the College eliminated the system in 2004 because "it was more credit, public credit, and why are we a credit card company?"

"For employees, it was easy to just take it out of the paycheck," Norton said. "But for students, you have to bill them and you have to collect, and so the overhead and the time and effort just didn't make a lot of sense."

After a decade of virtually free-for-all dining, the College will be shifting to a more controlled, but not restrictive, system. The one-card system will be developed slowly, with careful evaluation of data and much student input.

"We do not have to go down the road of a meal plan," Norton said. "If one of the big issues we have is around systems and practices, we get that fixed with an executive director, and if one of our other issues is that we want to restrict our dining halls to people who are actually part of the community, then that could be solved by hiring an executive director and adding a one-card. You don't need a meal plan for that. So that's the other issue – do we really need one?"

The College's retail operations are largely underused. Putting points on a one-card system could allow students to eat at 51 Main or The Grille without having cash on-hand, making it easier to dine outside of the dining halls and increase retail operation traffic.

Norton does not see any downside to the one-card system because, he argues, it will not prove to be restricting and it has the potential to increase variety both in terms of where students choose to eat and what Dining Services is capable of purchasing.

"When the business is aware of how many are coming in, they know the income from those guests, it is much easier to define your purchasing needs," wrote Director of Dining Services Matthew Biette in an email.

Just as the Weigh The Waste campaign in the fall sought to reduce food waste and refine Dining Services spending, tracking the number of students in the dining halls will allow for more accurate budgeting. This could potentially open doors for more local food in the dining

halls, increased variety and further accommodations for those with dietary restrictions.

SEEKING OUT NEW MANAGEMENT

Dining Services at the College is unique as Middlebury operates as a 12-month campus, rather than the nine-months for which most other schools operate. During the normal academic year, Dining Services operates three dining halls on campus, catering services and transaction-based retail operations such as The Grille, Crossroads and 51 Main. During the summer, Dining Services provides food for language schools and the Bread Loaf School of English over 10 miles away in Ripton.

The frequently changing number of students who use the dining halls, evolving dietary needs and the complexity of operations has led the College to seek restructuring within Dining Services and hire an Executive Director of Dining in the near future.

"Our systems are behind the times a bit and we need to improve them, certainly for an institution of Middlebury's caliber ... and complexity of operations," Norton said. "We have to up our game on how we're managing the overall operations."

In recent years, budget cuts have led the College to reduce catering operations, eliminate juice at lunch and dinner and only offer breakfast meats on weekends.

According to Norton, the Executive Director of Dining will be responsible for the College's three pillars of dining: retail, which encompasses The Grille, Crossroads, Wilson Café and 51 Main; catering functions; and board, or Proctor, Ross and Atwater dining halls.

"[In lieu of an outsourced general management model] we need an executive director to come in who ... can actually bring in the systems and the practice that we need to get from, say, a Sodexo," Norton said.

"But the idea is to do it ourselves, to remain self-operating, and there are a number of reasons for that. One is cost. We would contain our costs by selecting an internal hire. Number two is that we want connections to new food, curriculums being developed, we want more of a connection to local markets and we think it would be best served if we had that talent in-house to do it."



MCAB: Trivia Night

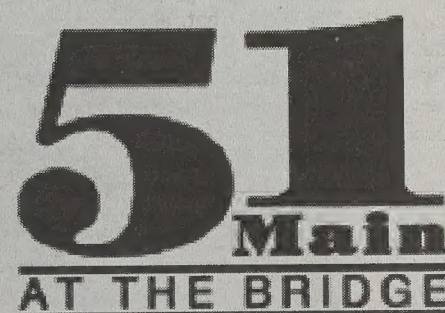
THURSDAY 9:00-11:00PM
All ages welcome!
Beer and wine available for 21+ with 2 forms of ID.
Free food!

Jam for Justice

FRIDAY 8:00-10:00PM
An evening of open mic and slam poetry that raises awareness of LGBTQA activism throughout the years. All ages welcome! Beer and wine available for 21+ w 2 forms of ID.

Late Night Karaoke

FRIDAY 12:00-2:00AM



Afinque

FRIDAY 8:00-11:00PM
Big Band Classic Salsa and Salsa Dura from Burlington, VT. Donations accepted to benefit Malt Dominican Republic. go/maltdr

Mint Julep

SATURDAY 8:00-11:00PM
Mint Julep gives jazz a fresh flavor performing all the sweet and scandalous standards from the Golden Age of Swing and Jazz with a modern flair.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Yoga with Sayre

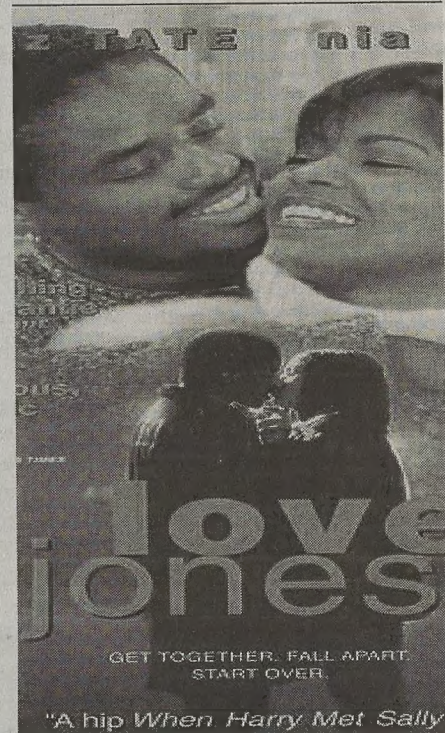
De-stress and breathe deep in the Proctor basement
FRIDAY AT 1:30 P.M.

Free Friday Film

Love Jones will be playing in Dana.
FRIDAY AT 6 & 9 P.M.

Zumba in McCullough

Take a study break and dancercize!
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.



New Science Posse Class to Hail from California

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

leadership qualities that they bring to a campus; they bring a diverse background because they come from many walks of life; they bring a commitment to education, social justice, and they bring an eagerness to work with people," said Professor Hector Vila, mentor for the New York 12 Posse.

According to Collado, a STEM Posse was proposed when the Chicago Posse was added in 2011. This allowed for discussion in the science program about the need for diversity and where improvements can be made and the initiative to diversify the sciences has been well received at the College.

"Nationally, underrepresented students tend to major in disciplines outside of the sciences," said Director of the Sciences, Bob Cluss. "Ideally, our majors in the sciences should reflect our society at large which will make our learning environment richer because everyone's perspective will be adequately represented."

New York Posse 11 Mentor and Professor of Chemistry Roger Sandwick believes that, "to add 10 students in [the sciences] of different backgrounds will add to the culture and can only help. It will start to encourage the current students of color to take the chance and be in there."

Middlebury has been working to strengthen the Science program for a while according to Cluss. This has included a National Science Foundation grant dating back to the 1990s that brought high school students to campus for science programming and to engage in research with our faculty. Another grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute later in the 1990s supported a program that is similar to that

of Posse.

The new LA STEM Posse will help to both diversify the science program and to provide feedback on the structure of the science curriculum.

"We're very enthusiastic about what we'll learn, what we'll do, and how we'll support [the STEM Posse scholars]," said Collado. "They will also play a major role in helping us make sure that we strengthen the STEM program and that things go well. Many of our faculty are eager to allow this to be a vehicle for them to also do what they need to do to make sure that our classrooms are inclusive and are allowing all of our students to do well."

"The [new Posse students] will be arriving at a time when change is taking place," said Cluss. "We are already using or planning new pedagogical approaches and re-evaluating the way that gateway courses are taught in the sciences."

Along with its role in helping the science program, the new Posse will add to what the existing New York and Chicago Posse are doing to enhance the college community.

Posse student Biniyam Estifanos '14 commented that, "the Posse program has been effective on campus in a mission to bring diversity to this campus, but I think it still lacks diversity, whether that be racial diversity, ethnic diversity, any type of diversity. I think Middlebury could do better with the amount of potential that we have and I think that this third Posse coming is a huge step towards achieving this diversity goal."

According to Collado, the Posse program is neither a minority-based program

nor a need-based program and so it brings diversity to a campus in the broadest sense of its definition.

"All of these students are part of this community that we are trying to diversify and figure out even if it sometimes feels messy and uncomfortable," she said.

This new Posse will also bring demographic changes to the campus. Collado explained that Middlebury was allowed to choose the new Posse from a range of locations and decided on LA because of the opportunities that will arise from ties to the West Coast.

According to Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles the Posse program in Chicago has already proven effective in increasing the exposure of students involved in urban and outreach programs to the College.

In the class of 2017, about 19 percent of applications were from the West Coast and about 11 percent were from California. Of those from the West Coast 32 percent enrolled and of those from California, 30 percent enrolled.

"We feel like we already have a good foundation [in California] so we thought we could better leverage what presence we already have there with this STEM Posse," Buckles said.

Buckles claims the new Posse in LA is a "tremendous win for us" because, "We anticipate that it will help for probably all measures; for creating access for tradition-

ally underrepresented students, for helping us in LA and the greater LA area in general, and then certainly for generating interest in STEM related fields."

Out of the twelve schools that are partners with the LA Posse, the College will be the only STEM Posse and so according to Sandwick, the College will most likely receive the strongest science students from this area.

"Posse is providing a way for us to communicate to a larger public school system that Middlebury is a place where you can thrive in the humanities, in the social sci-

ences, in the actual sciences and be a STEM student," Collado said. "And I think that many students out in the world don't know that and public school students in urban schools don't know that."

"I think that the Posse Foundation is redefining merit and how we think about academic excellence at this country at

the most elite institutions," Collado said. "I think that Middlebury is better and stronger because it decided to look at leadership as something that is valued."

Said Estifanos, "I'm excited to see a third Posse coming. I think the worries that some people have about the third Posse are very similar to those we had when Chicago came. They might be seen as a third wheel but it's my hope that there's this open arm that's extended from the current Posse on campus to just welcome them."

"Ideally, our majors in the sciences should reflect our society at large, which will make our learning environment richer."

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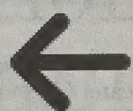


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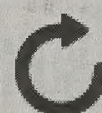
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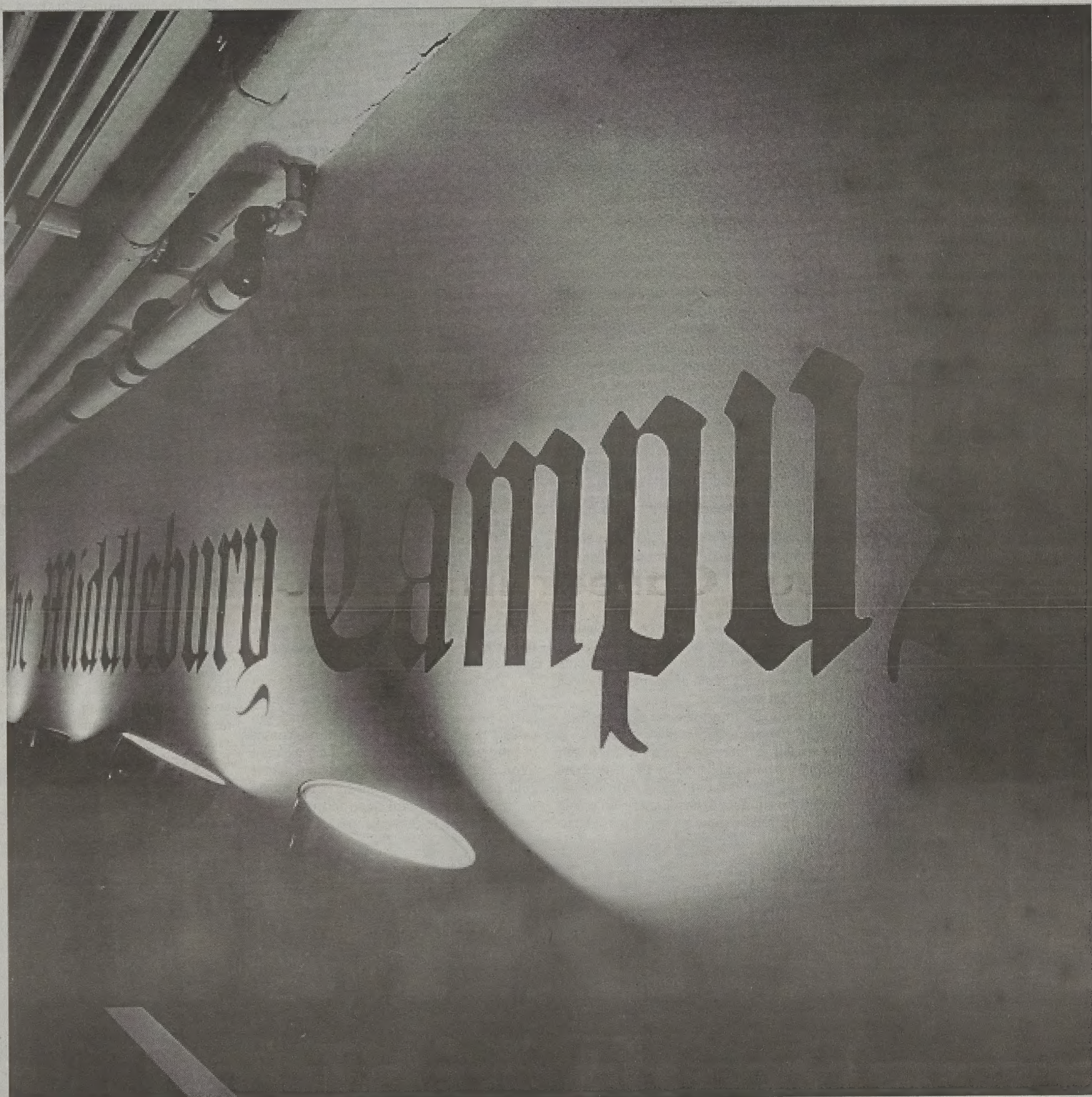


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Fatalities Shock Vermont Ski Community

By Conor Grant

Two weekends ago, twin fatalities rocked the Vermont ski community. The two deaths are the latest in a tragic series of winter sports-related fatalities that have occurred across Vermont this winter season, reminding winter sport enthusiasts across the state and the country of the inherent risk of snow sports.

Kendra Bowers, a sophomore at the University of Vermont (UVM), died in a ski accident in Warren, Vt. on Saturday, Feb. 1st and Torin Tucker, a junior on the Dartmouth College ski team, passed away that same day during a race in Craftsbury, Vt.

According to authorities, Bowers was skiing with friends and family on Saturday morning at Sugarbush ski resort when she lost control at an intersection of two merging trails and struck a trail sign.

Bowers was transported to the bottom of the mountain by ski patrollers and the rushed to the Central Vermont Hospital, where she died roughly an hour after she sustained the injury. According to the medical examiner who performed the autopsy, Bowers suffered a broken neck. The state medical examiner's office reported that Bowers was wearing a helmet when she sustained the injury.

Bowers, a nineteen-year-old Newport, R.I. native, was a student of environmental studies at UVM, an a cappella singer, and a prominent student who was admired by her peers at UVM and beyond.

Tucker, a 20 year-old ski racer from Sun Valley, I.D., was competing in a cross-country ski-racing event called the Craftsbury Marathon in Craftsbury, Vt. when he collapsed in the middle of the race. Despite immediate resuscitation attempts, Tucker passed away just minutes after he hit the snow.

Later medical reports revealed that Tucker had an undiagnosed heart condition affecting his left coronary artery that induced cardiac arrest during the strenuous 50 kilometer race.

The respective schools of the two skiers have both held memorial services to commemorate the passing of these two accomplished students.

Unfortunately, Bowers and Tucker are not the only ski fatalities this winter in Vermont.

Skylar Ormond, a 23 year-old native of Canandaigua, N.Y., died roughly two weeks before Bower and Tucker on Jan. 17 in a snowboarding accident at Killington Resort in Killington, Vt.

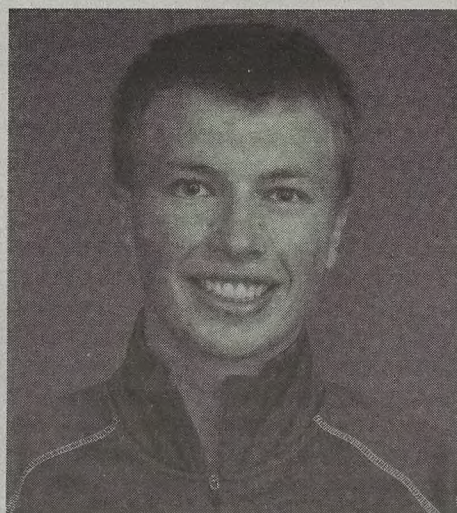
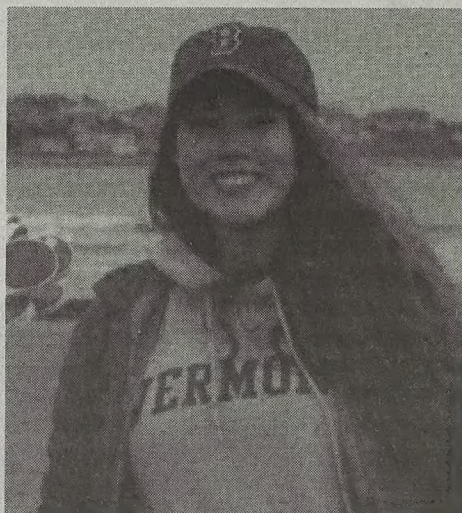
Ormond, who was snowboarding with two friends when the accident occurred, turned sharply to avoid a collision with one of his friends, and careened into the woods, where suffered a significant impact with a tree.

Ormond was transported to the Rutland Regional Medical Center, where he died of internal injuries shortly after his arrival at the hospital.

Regrettably, Ormond was actually the second person involved in a fatal crash at Killington this season. Jennifer Strohl, a 21 year-old from Jim Thorpe, P.A., went missing at the resort on Thursday, December 12th. Her body was found a few feet off of a Killington trail approximately six hours after she was reported missing. Reports indicate that she sustained substantial head trauma and that she was not wearing a helmet.

A 45 year-old New Jersey man named Lawrence Walck also died on Saturday, Jan. 11 at Stratton ski resort after a fatal sledding crash.

This tragic winter season in Vermont is understandably upsetting to skiers and riders across the country. The incidence of winter sport-related fatalities is nothing new in Vermont, however. Skiing, snowboarding and other winter sports like sledding and



COURTESY OF WPTZ FIRST TRACKS ONLINE

Kendra Bowers, above left, died in a crash at Sugarbush in Warren, Vt. Torin Tucker, above right, died in a cross-country ski race in Craftsbury, Vt.

skating typically involve high speeds and are inherently dangerous.

At mountain resorts that offer winter sporting activities such as skiing and riding, staff members take great care to ensure the safety all visitors. All major ski resorts in Vermont operate ski patrols units that are trained to respond to injuries, crashes and any other crisis situations that may arise on the mountain.

The Middlebury College Snow Bowl operates its own ski patrol unit. Founded in 1946, the Middlebury College ski patrol is headed by director Steve Paquette and assistant director Sean Grzyb and is comprised of highly-trained Middlebury students who have received National Ski Patrol Certification.

At the end of the day, however, there are some situations that cannot be ameliorated by even the most diligent ski patrollers and the most comprehensive safety mechanisms.

A number of factors, including the conditions of the snow, visibility, temperature and human error contribute to the thousands of ski accidents that occur in Vermont every year.

Despite the improvement of safety technology, the number of winter sport-related fatalities has increased steadily in recent years. A report published by the University of Washington in the spring of 2013 reported that the number of head injuries in young people caused by snow sports increased 250

percent from 1996 to 2010.

A recent article published in *The New York Times* asserted that an increased use of ski helmets has not curtailed the incidence of brain injuries and death. According to the National Ski Areas Association in a recent report, 70 percent of skiers and riders currently wear helmets — this represents a nearly threefold increase from 2003 — but fatalities caused by snow sports have not decreased.

While some people believe that the failure of increased helmet coverage to curb brain injuries and death on the slopes is attributable to the limitations of even the most advanced helmets to mitigate massive head trauma, others believe that helmets give skiers and riders an artificially inflated perception of their safety, encouraging them to engage in risky behaviors.

Whatever the underlying reason for the continued prevalence of brain injuries and deaths on the slopes, recent events in Vermont provide a harrowing reminder of the importance of safety when participating in snow sports.

The National Ski Areas Association recommends that all skiers and riders adhere to the principles enumerated in a campaign called "Heads Up" that began in the winter of 1999-2000 as an effort to reduce accident frequency by means of education. Their guidelines, applicable to all snow sports activities, are listed in the table above.

According to Steve Paquette, the direc-

THE 'HEADS UP' CAMPAIGN SAFETY GUIDE:

- 1 ALWAYS STAY IN CONTROL
- 2 PEOPLE AHEAD OF YOU HAVE THE RIGHT OF WAY
- 3 STOP IN A SAFE PLACE FOR YOU AND OTHERS
- 4 WHENEVER STARTING DOWNHILL OR MERGING, LOOK UPHILL AND YIELD
- 5 USE DEVICES TO HELP PREVENT RUNAWAY EQUIPMENT
- 6 OBSERVE SIGNS AND WARNINGS, AND KEEP OFF CLOSED TRAILS
- 7 KNOW HOW TO USE THE LIFTS SAFELY

- The National Ski Areas Association

tor of the ski patrol at the Middlebury College Snow Bowl, the single most important step that skiers and snowboarders can take to ensure the safety of themselves and others is to take the time to "know the mountain" and to "find trails that accommodate their abilities."

As Middlebury students and other snow sport enthusiasts head to the slopes for the remainder of this winter season, please make sure to follow the safety outlines posted, be aware of all conditions that may affect performance and control and take a moment to grab a trail map and review the layout of the mountain.



COURTESY OF FIRST TRACKS ONLINE

Two young skiers died in severe accidents earlier this winter at Killington ski resort in Killington, Vt., above.

Green Mountain Coffee and Coca-Cola Strike Soda Deal

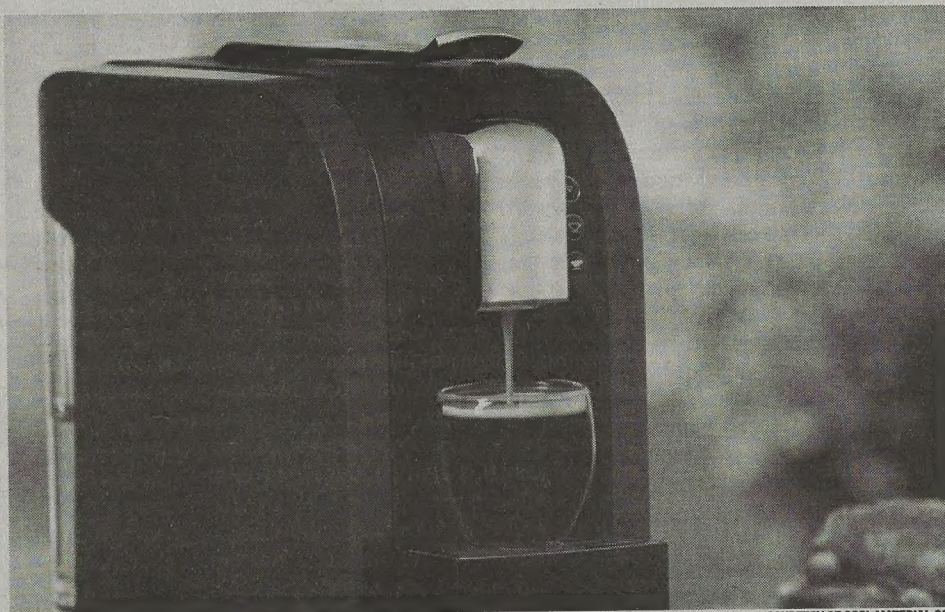
By Harry Cramer

Coca-Cola announced last Wednesday that it will buy a 10 percent stake in Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (G.M.C.R.), an investment of approximately 1.25 billion dollars. In return, Green Mountain will produce the company's single serve beverages.

G.M.C.R. stock skyrocketed nearly 25 percent after the announcement, closing at \$114.85. The company plans to use the investment for product development and to buy back shares.

Green Mountain Coffee began in 1981 as a little cafe in Waitsfield Vermont. In 2005, McDonalds began selling the coffee in the Northeast, and in 2006, G.M.C.R. acquired Keurig Incorporated.

The Keurig, a home-brew single serve coffee machine, has staved off competition from myriad imitators, most markedly Starbucks' model, the Verismo. Green Mountain Coffee plans to release the Keurig Cold in 2015. The machine will utilize Keurig's pod-based technology to produce carbonated sodas



COURTESY OF COOL MATERIAL.COM

A number of competitors of Green Mountain Coffee Roasters have produced imitation products, such as Starbucks' Verismo coffee-maker, pictured above.

and waters, sports drinks, juices, and even teas.

Since the Keurig system currently accounts for over 90 percent of G.M.C.R.'s revenue, the company plans to change its name to Keurig Green Mountain Incorporated.

Brian Kelly, chief executive of the company, said that Coca-Cola's global market makes for "the perfect combination" with G.M.C.R.'s technology and household expertise. "The cold beverage business has built brands that are global," Kelly said, and he believes that it can do so with Keurig.

Coca-Cola hopes to use its new partnership with G.M.C.R. to expand its already significant market share and ensure the continued prevalence of Coca-Cola products in American homes.

Green Mountain Coffee could encounter competition from SodaStream, a

company that advertised in Super Bowl XLVIII in a bid to reach a broad North American audience. By early Thursday stock had dropped just 2 percent; experts believe that Pepsi may back the Israeli company in response.

The deal is unwelcome news for David Einhorn, whose hedge fund, Greenlight Capital, has accused G.M.C.R. of misleading shareholders. Einhorn first raised concerns about the company's accounting practices in 2011, and shares dropped a whopping 80 percent in the months after the accusations.

G.M.C.R.'s deal with Coca-Cola took financial experts by surprise. Coke has traditionally relied on restaurants and bottlers to deliver their product. However, "Coca-Cola sat down at the home beverage table," said Scott Van Winkle, a Boston analyst with Canaccord Genuity, "and went all in on their first hand."



COURTESY OF TURNER.COM

Green Mountain Coffee Roasters uses the popular Keurig coffee system.

LOCAL LOWDOWN 21

Valentines Dinner Dance in Vergennes

Come on down to the Addison County Eagles in Vergennes for a delicious dinner. Food will be served at 6 p.m. After the meal, the evening will consist of dancing to the music of the Brown River Band from 7-11 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance or \$30 at the door. Call 802-355-6011 or 802-877-2055 for details. Proceeds will benefit auxiliary charities.

FEB. 14, 6-11 PM

Fred Barnes and Sarah Stone Perform Onstage in Brandon

The talented Fred Barnes will play the piano to accompany singer Sarah Stone as she croons romantic Valentines songs of Rodgers & Hart, Johnny Mercer, Stephen Sondheim, George Gershwin, Burt Bacharach and more. Admission will be \$15. The event will be held at Brandon Music. Reservations are available at 802-465-4071 or info@brandon-music.net..

FEB. 14, 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Green Mountain Ski and Snowshoe Trek in Lincoln

Join some of the intrepid members of the Green Mountain Club this weekend for a moderate to difficult outing in the wilderness in the Bristol Cliffs area. Contact trip leader Beth Eliason at 802-989-3909 for details and updates regarding the meeting place and time

FEB. 15, T.B.D.

Lauren Sheehan Americana Concert in Bristol

Come on down to the WalkOver Concert room at 15 Main Street in Bristol to see the acclaimed roots Americana musician Lauren Sheehan performing the second of four concerts in the WalkOver's Women's Concert Series. Tickets are on sale for \$15 in advance or \$20 the day of the performance. For reservations contact walkover@mac.com or 802-453-3188, ext. 2.

FEB. 15, 8-10 PM

All-you-can-eat Pancake Breakfast in Addison

If you are in the mood for a true breakfast of champions, come visit the Addison Fire Station this Sunday for an all-you-can-eat breakfast consisting of plain and blueberry pancakes, sausage, bacon, home fries, coffee, hot chocolate and orange juice. Adults pay \$6, kids under 12 only \$4, and all funds raised will be used to purchase equipment for the Addison Volunteer Fire Department. For information call 802-759-2237.

FEB. 21, 7 AM-11 PM

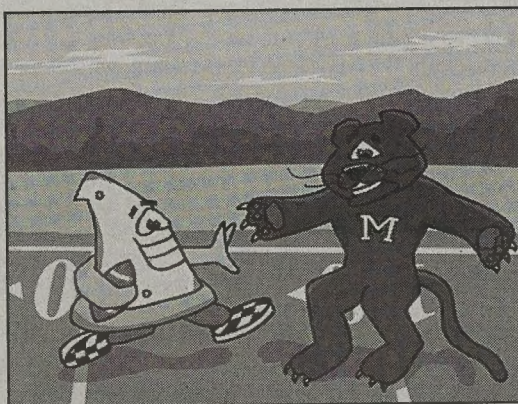
Ferrisburgh Sail Freight Project Presentation in Ferrisburgh

The Ferrisburgh Historical Society is hosting entrepreneur and innovator Erik Andrus in the Ferrisburgh Town Hall on Sunday. Andrus will talk about his handmade sail barge that he loaded with Vermont goods and sailed to New York City on a 10-day journey down the Hudson River last year. The event is free.

FEB. 16, 2 PM - 3 PM



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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Don't Swipe Dining Under the Rug

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

If before this issue of the *Campus* hit the stands, you were to walk up to a student in Proctor and ask them what they think about the new dining swipe system coming soon, most would look back at you puzzled. "What swipe system?" Here's what we know. A swipe system will be implemented. This is not a meal plan. Students will have unlimited swipes; the swipe system is only meant to keep out people "riding the panther," who are eating in the dining hall without paying for it. The system is meant to collect data — to learn how many meals we are serving and how much it costs per meal. This data will then be used to look critically at our dining

system. More data is never a bad thing. But the decisions that are made from that data could be. We welcome the much-needed information. All we ask for is a seat at the table when we decide what to do with it.

While this system is still in its infancy, we need student input in this process going forward. All the information we know is in this week's *Campus*. As we move forward towards a swipe card system and possibly a meal plan, it is vitally important that the administration be as transparent as possible.

Our dining system has long been a stalwart of community at Middlebury, one of the main things our tour guides laud on their treks across campus. At a school with increasingly few common spaces, the

dining halls operate as a student center. They are where groups meet, where friends run into each other, where we can take a breather from the pressures of courses and extracurriculars. The openness of our dining system creates the strong community that attracted many of us to Middlebury in the first place. Moreover, at a school where navigating class privilege is tricky, dining remains a level playing field where everyone has equal access regardless of financial status. Maintaining that equality is key. What and how we eat in our dining halls affects us every single day; therefore, we need to be involved in this process going forward.

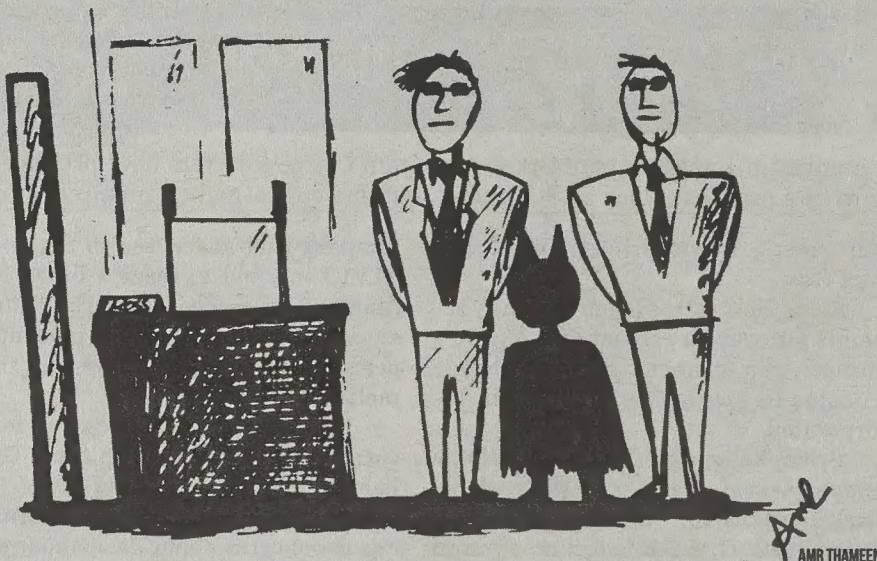
Adjusting our dining system could result in greater flexibility for students.

A one-card system, for example, could provide a debit card of sorts where students could also buy food at the Grille, 51 Main, and other College-operated venues without having to carry cash. But this transition must occur delicately, for even minor changes could rock the boat and change ways we interact as a community.

Just as there were committees on alcohol and the honor code — both issues with great impact on students — there should be a committee on dining, with student representatives working with faculty, staff and administrators.

Once this data is collected, we should help decide what the next steps are. Evaluating our dining system could be a J-term class, just as we did with Carbon Neutrality. There are already many students interested in food issues — from Eat Real to Weybridge House to the campaign for the new Food Studies minor — and they could be valuable assets to any decision-making bodies.

Moreover, we need the opportunity to ask questions and engage as a student body. We need someone to address our concerns about the swipe system, because we have an incomplete picture. This announcement has been made without adequate details to quell student anxieties, and with such a touchy subject, rumors are sure to fly. Those responsible — Shirley Collado, Patrick Norton and whoever is named Executive Director of Dining Services — need to answer these questions and solicit student involvement quickly before this plan turns into something it's not.



The Middlebury Campus

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Faculty: This is Required Reading

I recently asked a top administrator what percentage of the faculty read the *Campus* in some capacity every week.

"What do you think?" She asked me.

"Fifty percent."

"Try twenty," was the response.

Twenty percent is unacceptable. Faculty members, you are part of our community. To receive a paycheck from Middlebury

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Kyle Finck '14 is the Editor-in-Chief from New York, N.Y.

College, you should be expected to do more than just teach. What makes our community special is that everyone does more. Custodians do more than just tidy rooms, doling out smiles and advice. Administrators do more than just make big scale decisions, and students are expected to do more than just go to class. Faculty should be held to the same standard. Our community thrives on the fact that nobody lives in a vacuum, and it is not acceptable for faculty members to teach four classes, advise a few students, and go home. This is not just a day job, and the best of our faculty don't clock out at 5 p.m. You are teaching us more than your field of expertise, you are teaching us life. Faculty, it is time to reinvest in our community.

When you live in a vacuum, you make decisions in a vacuum. That has consequences. When a professor sent out a casting call to nearly a 100 women of color encouraging them to audition for the role of a wet nurse role in the play "In the Next Room," many students responded with anger. If that professor had followed coverage of Chance the Rapper's concert and the forum which brought to light larger issue of marginalized groups, would the email have been sent? If that professor had understood the complex racial tensions and feelings of isolation that many students had eloquently expressed in the Opinions section of the *Campus*, would that email have been sent?

Nov. 21 showed both the decaying status quo and glimmers of light in faculty engagement at the College. That Thursday, the Faculty Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) met to discuss the fate of summer internships for credit. The same day, the *Campus* published an editorial under the headline "Give Credit Where Credit is Due," recommending specific solutions that

integrated student and faculty concerns. When only one of the five EAC members reads a voice of the student body on an important academic issue facing the future of the liberal arts education, we have a problem. Students are ultimately the consumer of the College, and we deserve a faculty that is invested in our community.

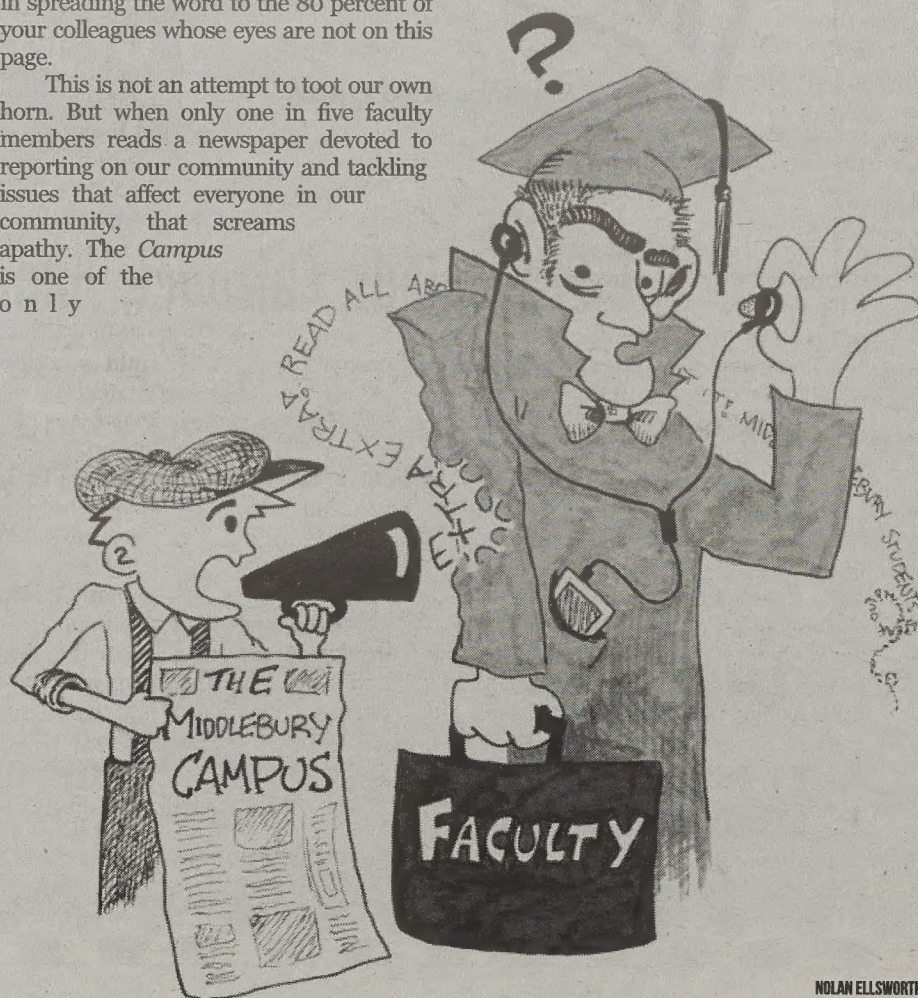
But later that day, Amy Wax gave a contentious lecture on diverging family structures and moral deregulation that many of the attendees crammed in Hillcrest found pedantic at best and racist at worst. While Murray Dry's decision to sponsor Wax was controversial, he showed once again why he is the Gold Standard for community engagement. He consistently weaves *Campus* articles and editorials into his classes and discussions with students, even sending feedback to individual reporters. Professor Dry, your engagement does not go unnoticed, and I need your help in spreading the word to the 80 percent of your colleagues whose eyes are not on this page.

This is not an attempt to toot our own horn. But when only one in five faculty members reads a newspaper devoted to reporting on our community and tackling issues that affect everyone in our community, that screams apathy. The *Campus* is one of the only

spaces that brings together issues concerning the faculty, staff, students and administrators every single week and allows all parties to throw in their two cents.

It is unfair to characterize a group as diverse as the Middlebury Faculty with a single adjective. I have been taught by professors like Deb Evans, who began class by asking her students about the issues affecting them, and numerous other professors who take a genuine interest in their students' concerns. But how is a biology professor supposed to find out what issues are affecting students who never set foot in Bicentennial Hall?

This is not an assault on the faculty. It is an invitation. Open the paper, get angry, tell us we are wrong, bring an editorial into a class discussion, write an op-ed, but for the sake of our entire community, it is time to reinvest.



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

Prioritizing the Poor

The philanthropic sector in the U.S. is broken.

According to Jeffery Sach's estimate in his book, *The End of Poverty*, just \$175

WARM GLOW

Hudson Cavanagh '14
is from New York, N.Y.

billion dollars annually over the next 20 years, appropriated efficiently, could end global extreme poverty, defined as people living on less than \$1.25 a day. The estimate is likely wildly optimistic; nonetheless, it illustrates both the enormous potential of properly applied charitable dollars and the relatively feasible scale of funding needed to fight poverty global poverty.

When Sach's book was published in 2005, United States philanthropic giving (not including foundations) was a total of \$252.2 billion — a figure which has since increased over 25 percent in less than a decade, to over \$316 billion (though lower

than the pre-bubble high in 2007 of over \$344). Despite the availability of significant funding, the philanthropic sector is structurally inefficient at serving the truly neediest. The scope of the misallocation of charitable dollars owes to three main factors.

The first is rooted in human nature; we are largely driven to give by emotional rather than rational reasons. Donors behave like consumers, rather than investors, meaning that how riveting a charity's "story" or "brand" is often more important than the evidence of their cost-effectiveness ("return on investment"). This characteristic drastically distorts the efficiency of giving.

Great marketing, not empirical evidence, differentiates non-profits like Charity: Water (3.5 million people served) from Evidence Action's Safe Water Dispenser project (roughly 1 million people served). Despite its smaller reach, which reflects donor behavior, the latter's intervention is

based on better empirical evidence, including multiple Randomized Controlled Trials (RCTs), oversight of academics at the forefront of their fields, and ongoing evaluation of impact on recipients.

Donor issue selection is also often emotionally driven, as in the case of an individual who gives to Lyme disease foundations because they lost somebody dear to the disease, even though most would agree that preventing malaria has the best impact on human welfare on the margin.

The second factor is the lack of information available to both donors and non-profits themselves. It is extremely challenging — and costly — to measure and compare the real-world impact of charities because of unintended consequences and indirect effects. The effects of deworming efforts on long-term education, for example, could very well be better or worse than widely assumed, despite there being multiple RCTs designed to answer this very question.

Sometimes donors lean on false proxies for cost-effectiveness, like measuring a non-profit's overhead. Organizations like Charity Navigator are more harmful than helpful in this regard: comparisons of overhead (non-program related operating expenses) distract from the fact that different interventions can be orders of magnitude more impactful than others. In fact, overhead can, depending on context, be the best investment an organization can make, by helping reevaluate programs, and refine best practices in diverse contexts.

The third factor is our misguided charitable tax-deduction policy. Because tax deductions for charitable contributions are tied only to legal classification, rather than impact, tax deductions accrue whether one gives to the Guggenheim or to prevent mother-child transmission of HIV during birth in vulnerable communities. This policy gives legal justification to the ethically flawed rationalization that giving to what we care about matters as much as giving to the neediest. Clearly, the preventing HIV transmission matters more on the margin.

A 2007 study from The Center for Philanthropy at IUPUI found that while households that make less than \$100,000 focus around 36 percent of their giving on

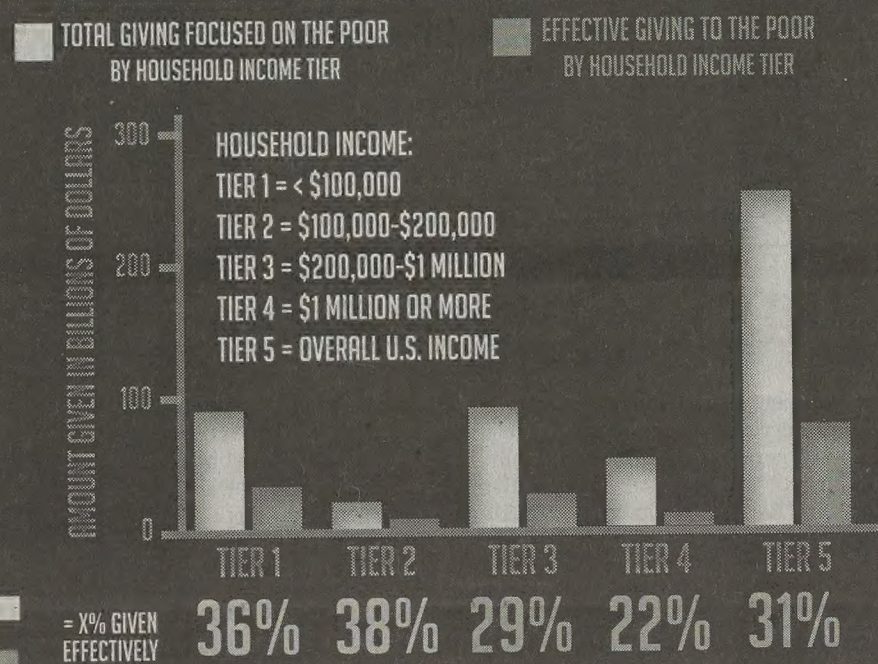
the needs of the poor, those that make over a million commit less than 22 percent of their giving to such causes, although the wealthiest (top 10 percent) were the most generous to all causes, donating a greater percentage of their income to charity than any other (there were other divergences too, like the top 10 percent prioritizing the Arts and medical research, while giving a smaller percentage of their donations to religious institutions). These figures reflect substantially different giving priorities between classes, but most relevantly about how most Americans prioritize helping the poor.

In total, only 26 percent of charitable contributions go to the domestic poor, while only 4.6 percent of giving goes to help the poor abroad. In 2005, less than one third of giving in the U.S. directly benefited poor people, with no reason to believe this trend has reversed from contemporary data (for which I did not have the same detailed analysis).

Here's the kicker: according to a recent CBO report, of the \$39 billion dollars the U.S. spends annually on charitable tax deductions, 80 percent goes in tax relief to the donors who give the least, in proportion to total giving, to the poor: the top 20 percent. Such tax deductions represent only 0.1 percent of after-tax income for families in the middle quintile, but a whopping 1.4 percent of after-tax income amongst the richest 1 percent. Tax deductions accrue disproportionately to people who support the needs of the poor the least, when the policy would be far more efficient if it incentivized intelligent, impactful giving by tying deductions to empirical impact as determined by an unbiased, third party.

The principal problem with giving in the U.S. is not the generosity of Americans, but how that money is distributed. Donors are bad at choosing which charities to give to; charities face distorted incentives to market well, rather than be accountable; and charitable tax deductions incentivize counter-productive behavior with regard to the global poor. These factors contribute to the morally catastrophic distribution of U.S. donations, with those most in need of aid shouldering the burden.

WHO GIVES WHAT?



DATA COURTESY OF THE CENTER ON PHILANTHROPY AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY. GRAPHIC BY OLIVIA ALLEN

HOW WE (SHOULDN'T) APPROACH PEOPLE AT MIDD

To honor Valentine's Day, what better to discuss than relationships and sex? Middlebury is probably not unique in its

BROWN EYED GIRL

messed up idea of courtship. Think about how you usually meet the people you sleep with. It's at a party full of grimy, sweaty students that you weave your way through. As a woman, it's common to have someone grab your butt and push it into his or her crotch, as you wait for a sign of approval from your friends. The music is loud, and it's pretty much dark anyways, so do you even really know what they look like? It's sad that that's all the courtship we need to exchange saliva with someone and, maybe later on in the night, perform the most intimate act you can with someone.

The classic booty text has the same function. We've all sent them and gotten them — that post 10 p.m. "hey what are you up to tonight?" or if you're feeling really courageous, a "we should meet up later." I even know someone who was told she was being taken to the Grille to talk, and then went straight to Painter to a guy's room because she was so drunk.

Alcohol is no excuse for disrespect, but we have set our standards so low that even a gracious 'hello' from last night's hookup the next day seems like a gift from God. Yet we all, myself included, complain that nobody here dates, hookup culture sucks and nobody treats anybody well. I've heard several girls say, "I can't text him because I don't want him to think I'm crazy" or "I have to give it a few days because I don't want him to think I'm already attached" or "I'll just

wait for him to text me or I'll text him next weekend".

Why should we have to wait to text? Why is it always that the women are often stereotyped as being clingy, emotional and attached after the first hookup? If this stereotype didn't exist, I think that the hookup scene would be less emotionally draining. I have had experiences and have seen my friends have experiences where a guy will ask a girl to hang out and watch a movie or prophesize his desire to take her on a date. A few weekends of casual sex, and then they never talk again. Expectations build if you set them. Casual sex is absolutely fine, but not when it's peppered with sweet things that give someone hope for more. Even a text the next day saying "I had so much fun last night, hope to see you soon" can be interpreted as "he is totally into me," because why else would someone be bothered to text you the next day?

Hookup culture exists because we are attractive people around the same age who are stressed out, want to have fun and we have a lot of choices. But what about people who aren't conventionally attractive? What about exoticizing? I have heard so many minorities say that they feel like white people don't think they are attractive or they feel like nobody wants to hook up with them except to "experiment". It could just be that people are attracted to those similar to them, so for students that have grown up in a homogenous environment, only people who look like them fit the mold. But attractive people are attractive people, so why is there a stark lack of bi-racial couples on campus? Shouldn't we move out of our comfort zone and be

open to new possibilities?

As someone who is colored, I have had my ethnicity referenced in every sexual interaction I have had on this campus. I've hooked up with guys who have told me that they've never hooked up with someone of my ethnicity before, that their parents would think this is cool since they've traveled to my country of origin, or that they really like the food from my country. I know Africans here who have had several comments on their penis size — how many of us have heard "once you go Black, you can never go back"? I've heard girls describe guys by saying "he has a thing for Asians" or "he lost his virginity to an Indian girl, so maybe he likes them." People of color are often sexualized and experimented with, and through this are othered.

I think that I am really pretty. Just not here because here the image of beauty and what's acceptable in a partner is so skewed. I feel like people don't see me as attractive and am surprised when someone approaches me, all because I am not white and don't fit the mold. I know other minorities feel this way too — you either feel like you stick out and everyone is looking at you, or that nobody sees you. It's never blending in.

We slap a racial label on minorities the second we see them and then define them by it forever. Think about it, have you ever heard of someone having "White Fever"? We have to remember that whether you're making out with someone or having sex, it's with a person, not a race. You connect with people, not their ethnicity. We aren't foreign. We're just a few hues darker! There seems to be a sort of fear of more than

a one-night stand with someone who looks different or speaks differently because it's the unknown.

We are in a liberal arts school and are supposed to learn, change and grow. We can't do this unless we get rid of the blinders with which we entered college. So the next time you're at Atwater, try talking to the girl you hope to dance with. Or ask your Proctor crush on a date! Don't let race be a boundary or a reason for you to make your move and defy the rules of hookup culture.



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

We're All Wolves of Wall Street

CITIZEN KANYE

Nathan Weil '15 is
Geneva, Switzerland.

This has been a good year for movies. Tom Hanks gave a mesmerizing performance in *Captain Phillips*, *Mud* captured the spirit of the South with subtle grace, and *12 Years a Slave* depicted slavery without resorting to revisionist comedy and violence. The movie that most blew me away, however, was Martin Scorsese's *The Wolf of Wall Street*. Unsurprisingly, as Wolf has garnered as much criticism

as acclaim, ambivalence towards its 180 minutes of relentless and unabashed sex, drugs, and pump & dump isn't really an option.

The Wolf of Wall Street tells the story of Jordan Belfort, a former stockbroker whose career was cut short by dozens of felony convictions on charges of securities fraud and money laundering. Indeed, he cut himself short. This wasn't hubris; it was intentional criminality. As one of Belfort's prosecutors and Middlebury graduate Joel Cohen '84 says, "[Belfort was] a guy who woke up every day [...] and said, 'What crimes can I commit today?'"

Scorsese does not shy away from bringing these crimes to life. In almost every scene, we see Belfort or one of his cronies break the law. They are constantly under the influence of drugs (cocaine and Quaaludes are usual suspects), they inaugurate a new elevator in their building with a statutory rape, and, of course, they establish Statton Oakmont with the sole purpose of scheming and stealing from investors. Yet, for every crime, there is a victim, and critics of the film insist that many of these victims are not given the focus or face-time they deserve. I'd agree if this was a movie about condemning Belfort, but it's not. Wolf is about a lot more than that.

The film opens with Belfort snorting blow out of a hooker's ass before abruptly cutting to him receiving conjugal road head while speeding down the Long Island Ex-

pressway. If you saw the movie and weren't at least a little titillated after the first sixty seconds then my hat's off to you. From there, the movie barely slows down, orgies and drug binges become commonplace, but so does Belfort's selfishness. He is portrayed — quite rightly — as a compulsive liar and a cheat, to both his clients and his wife, Nadine. In one of the darkest scenes of the movie, Belfort hits Nadine before driving drunk and high with his young daughter in the passenger seat. There should be no doubt in anyone's mind as to the moral depravity of the title character and yet he just seems so likable and inviting. Perhaps it's a testament to DiCaprio's performance, but you can't help but want to spend a day with Belfort.

Wolf is less of an exposé of Belfort's crimes than a mirror of the American psyche. Last week nearly eight million people watched ABC's *The Bachelor*, now in its eighteenth season. That's right, millions of people actually tuned in to watch a glorified and one-sided mating ritual. A year after twenty children and six adults were murdered at Sandy Hook Elementary School thirty-two million people had purchased "Grand Theft Auto V" and not a single law had been passed by Congress to restrain gun violence. Justin Bieber's marijuana use is headline news and Robin Thicke can make a song about rape into a platinum record by putting naked women in the music video. The only thing more exciting to the American people than a movie about drugs and violence is a movie about drugs and violence starring a woman in black leather. We tell ourselves that these are guilty pleasures, but such assertions are nothing more than evangelical pretension.

With Wolf Scorsese tests this lust for perversion: when the veil of fiction is removed will we still fall for the villain? Needless to say we failed the test quite miserably. People criticize the director for glorifying Belfort, but not the viewer for eating it all up. Art is made so that those who encounter it question the very fabric of the world

around them. A simple recitation of Belfort's transgressions is better fit for the front page of the Wall Street Journal than the silver screen. In Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*, a middle-aged man, lusts after a 14-year-old girl, eventually raping her. My (much missed) co-columnist, Harry Zieve Cohen, tells me that the brilliance of the book lies in how difficult Nabokov makes it to resist feeling at least some excitement in reading about the protagonist's wicked behavior. This analysis also holds for *The Wolf of Wall Street*. The very elements of the film that many denounce are exactly what makes it so great. Indeed, the very fact that people see the film as a glorification of Belfort is evidence that they, like I, were unable to fully resist the attraction of vice. In portraying Belfort as a hero, Scorsese makes us the villain. Could we really say he's wrong? In portraying Belfort as a hero, Scorsese makes us the villain. Maybe he's on to something...



SAMANTHA WOOD

NOT LIKE TAKING A FIFTH CLASS

An article in the November 13, 2013 edition of the *Campus*, "Racial Casting Call Criticized" quoted Debanjan Roy-

READER OPED

Jeannette Cortez '16
is from Philadelphia, Pa.

choudhury '16 as saying that "being a student of color at Middlebury is kind of like taking a fifth class." I hope that after this piece comes out, someone quotes me saying that being a student of color at Middlebury means nothing more than that you are a student of color at Middlebury. Everything else you feel about that is your own doing. Everyone warns you about the culture shock. Nobody ever said that you have to let it affect you negatively.

Maybe this comes with my personal identity, but I don't really relate to every issue with which students of color sometimes find issue. I have trained myself not to let trivial things separate me from that which what I truly believe. If I believe that I can make it in this world regardless of my social class, of my ethnic background, or of my gender then I should do my best to try. I do not make extra obstacles for myself and I feel like that separates me from a handful of the other students on this campus. I do not care if wealthy students throw wealth-themed parties for other wealthy students. I do not care if I get a cast calling for a theater role for which I fit the description. I do not care if a demographer tells me that people that share my race and class don't often amount to anything. I do not care because I am here.

I am here because I want to succeed. To succeed you should learn from those who have succeeded before. So listen to them. Everyone is ignorant to some extent. Teach them about your world and, in exchange, have them teach you about theirs. I'm taking advantage of my resources. I'm networking. I'm learning about the world I never had access to, and I'm learning how to make it work for me. People might cringe to read this, but when Murray Dry spoke at the panel last year about affirmative action and said, "don't worry about it, be happy

that you're here," I couldn't help but feel the same way.

Now, saying that I don't care about what the demographer said or even simply agreeing with one of Murray Dry's statements doesn't mean I don't care about what I've left behind or who I am. I don't need either one to tell me what I already know. I live it every time I go home to gang violence, the drug wars that come with it and the impoverished community in which I have lived my entire life. When I get back to Middlebury, it is those memories that help me push through the next ten page paper, through the next French text analysis, through the next three all-nighters and meal-less days I power through in the library. I'm trying to be successful for

"Everyone warns you about the culture shock. Nobody ever said that you have to let it affect you negatively."

everyone I've left behind — so I can give back and teach them the secrets to success we have

been denied our whole lives. I am not saying I have never had a bad experience at Middlebury. The rigor of everything constantly depresses me because it's a reminder of the abysmal education I received my whole life. Spanglish is not an acceptable means of communication, I have to put up with Americanized Mexican food, and I can't expect people to waltz instead of grind on the dance floor. I feel homesick every few weeks. I want to see more brown and black faces. It's rough. I'm sure these setbacks are not unique to me. But these are all things that I can get over and cope with. I'm not willing to make more problems for myself. I don't see the logic in it.

I want to be an educator. I want to be a mentor. I want to be that stepping stone that is too often overlooked because it hides beneath the water's surface. I can't do that if I constantly over-analyze and judge the white, upper-middle-class society I chose to immerse myself in for every mistake they may or may not have made in an attempt to cater to what they assume are our needs. I have my share of worries, but I never go out of my way to find myself more. I'm too focused on the task at hand.

Just Call AAL Other

A recent student initiative suggests that Middlebury's system of academic requirements is in need of reform. Specifically, the authors of the proposal, Daniela Barajas '14.5 and Rana Abdelhamid '15, criticize the AAL requirement for failing to embody the College's commitment to expose students to a variety of the world's cultures and civilizations. Their proposal is rapidly gaining traction: it is the most successful initiative in the history of the We The Middkids online platform, and last week it gained an endorsement from SGA President Rachel Lidell.

The proposal is right to point out the oddity of lumping Africa, Asia, and Latin America together. This label cannot be explained in terms of geography or culturally affinity. The existence of AAL is only explainable as a transparent and inelegant attempt to avoid calling a spade a spade — that is to say, to avoid using the label OTH ("other"), AAL's predecessor prior to 2003.

The proposed initiative would keep the NOR (North America) requirement, but eliminate AAL and instead require students to choose two regions from the following five: Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Europe. On the surface, it seems inherently logical to dis-aggregate the AAL region into its constituent regions, as well as to recognize the Middle East as a distinct region.

But this suggestion masks a sea change in the distribution requirements: EUR (Europe) would no longer be required. Students could graduate without ever having taken a class covering the cultural and civilizational heritage of Europe — the Western heritage that is the fount of Middlebury College.

The authors of the proposal concede that the NOR requirement should remain in place, out of deference to Middlebury's geographic location. But Middlebury's position cannot simply be defined by physical geography. Middlebury is physically located in North America, but it is a Western educational institution, and as such it cannot be viewed as separate from the European tradition. Middlebury's structure as an institute of higher learning dates back to the European Middle Ages; its values harken from the European Enlightenment. The fact that Western civilizations are especially emphasized at Middlebury is wholly appropriate, and should remain so.

This initiative suggests that the college errs somehow by emphasizing the study of Western cultures and civilizations. By privileging the study of North America and Europe over the rest of the world, they argue that it demeans non-Western thought. But the existing set of requirements does not somehow "minimize" the importance of

non-Western culture and civilization. Any student worthy of admission to Middlebury can recognize that non-Western thought is neither uniform nor somehow less important.

READER OPED

But a four-year education is limited in scope, and cannot possibly encompass the study of the entire world. Choices have to be made, and, given the cultural roots of Middlebury itself, it is reasonable that Middlebury students should expect their education to uniquely emphasize the Western tradition. One would hardly think it fair to criticize al-Azhar in Cairo for paying disproportionate attention to the Arab cultural heritage, or Peking University for focusing on the achievements of Chinese civilization.

I commend Ms. Barajas and Ms. Abdelhamid for their work. Many students have undoubtedly pondered Middlebury's graduation requirements and speculated on how to improve them, but they have created a logical, well-reasoned, and cogent proposal and have unsurprisingly gathered significant support. But while they are right to urge the scrapping of the AAL requirement, I believe their proposed solution would move Middlebury's curriculum in an inauspicious direction.

With this in mind, I would like to present a modified proposal. Rather than beating around the bush, why not bring back the OTH requirement? What OTH lacks in political correctness, it would make up for in intellectual honesty. The exhaustive nature of the OTH category would at least recognize the inherent futility of trying to rationally subdivide the non-Western world into neat little groups. One need only look at the proposed new categories to see that any such attempt will result in an inelegant, un-nuanced framework. The ASI (Asia) requirement, for instance, would still lump together over half the world's population, including the bulk of the world's Buddhist, Hindu, and Muslim civilizations. If the goal is to bestow a greater respect for the diversity of non-Western cultures, this hardly seems an improvement over the status quo.

The winds of change are in the air. President Liebowitz is leaving. Rumors surround the future of the honor code. Now Middlebury's degree requirements also seem to be in flux. This is an exciting time to be a Middlebury student. Although I will likely not be around to witness the conclusion of these trends, I trust in the Middlebury community to resolve these issues logically and in the spirit of cooperation, collegiality, and reasoned discourse.

Max Kagan '14 is from
Freeport, Maine.

All Men Are Created Equal?

READER OPED

Javeed Ahmadi '15 is from Kabul, Afghanistan.

Last night I had another terrible experience with Western Union. It was supposed to transfer my money to my friend in need in Rhode Island within a minute. But, the transaction was not processed until the next day. I spent four hours trying to fix it. The company told me that my first name "Muhammad" and last name "Ahmadi" is very GENERAL and is on a government list. That is why I am required to submit my passport copies to verify my full name and identity. I guess Uncle Sam is really careful about its foreign nephews, the one billion people with Muhammad(s) name.

I paid the fee for the transfer service and was supposed to be treated equally, but was denied my rights as a customer. Trust me, nothing feels more insulting than having your passport scrutinized for 15 minutes because of a stereotyped identity. Sometimes, I feel so ashamed and embarrassed that I can't see the eyes of people waiting behind me in the line. I even think they hate me for wasting their time by being in front of them and making them wait until someone verifies that I am a real human being. In such times, I have always wished that I could dig into the earth and hide myself from the embarrassment. I can write tons of such examples but I want to tell this world a very short version of my whole life to let them know how real life is

seen by me.

It was not my choice to be born in Afghanistan in 1990s when Afghans were killing Afghans for ethnic tensions and political ambitions. Sometimes, I feel I was born mistakenly in the wrong time and in the wrong place. The half of my life that I lived in Afghanistan, my race, religion, language, appearance and background created many barriers to overcome. The world is structured with walls that I need to climb and climb to get somewhere.

I lived six months in Pakistan and was forced to move to Iran because I am Afghan and seen as an inferior person. I spent six years inside the house and feared going out because of racial prejudices. One week in Istanbul, Turkey, I was scrutinized for a long time, and my luggage was checked for three hours. The other Turkish passengers looked at me and my other Afghan friends in anger because we delayed them too. For two weeks in India, it took five whole days to carry out my visit obligations with the immigration office. For two years in Costa Rica, people thought I was Venezuelan, Mexican, and Latin American, so I was only asked to show my ID twice. For 17 days in Cuba, I was scrutinized for hours and finally got to enter because I was with two friends — European citizens — who told the inspector that I am their friend. The inspector let me in not because I had all the required documentations but because I was with two Europeans. For one day in Panama, I was escorted to a hotel inside the city because Afghans needed visas.

In Tennessee, an old Korean-war veteran asked me if Muhammad "the prophet" told me to kill infidels, would I, "the Muhammad named kid," kill a non-Muslim? Making it to Middlebury College was not easy at all, and there are tons and tons of kids like me who fall to the ground and can't stand up again. But, I did and I will keep standing back on my feet. I won't give up this easily.

Since childhood, I saw many different kinds of regimes, Mujaheddin and the Taliban, the racist Iranian regime, the corrupted Afghan warlords in the government, and many other types including Uncle Sam's. Sometimes, I feel my experiences force me towards anarchy. Since childhood I needed to fight these all with every bit of my teeth to overcome them.

My family and relatives think I am the genius for studying in the US, making them proud. I am not genius for sure. I am simply a human being who is very ambitious and works his ass off to create a world for himself where he can finally live a normal life.

There have been many times when

I told myself that life is too heavy on me and is not worth continuing. There have been many times that I wished some natural disease would come and take me out of this hostile place. But every time, I become hopeful when I think of the many warm-hearted people that I have seen in different chapters of my life. Hope to me stands for He (me), O as overcomes, P as prejudices and E as eternally. So, the hopeful life is overcoming the anti-me world forever.

I sometimes think that maybe I should conform more because I am here in this world with no other option. If I dress up and look nicer, there will be fewer stereotypes, less scrutiny and easier life. Imagine me entering US through JFK airport with a black suit and a tie, with an Afghan traditional cloth or with a simple shirt and pants. I promise the immigration officer would treat me differently in all three situations.

Despite all this, I sincerely am happy with my current home, Middlebury. This is the first place that I feel welcome and treated well. And for that, I thank all of you, my friends.

DIVERSITY IN THE CURRICULUM

To the Editors:

I am writing as an alumnus and recent visiting instructor (Winter Term 2014)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Nathan Jandl '05 was a visiting instructor over J-term.

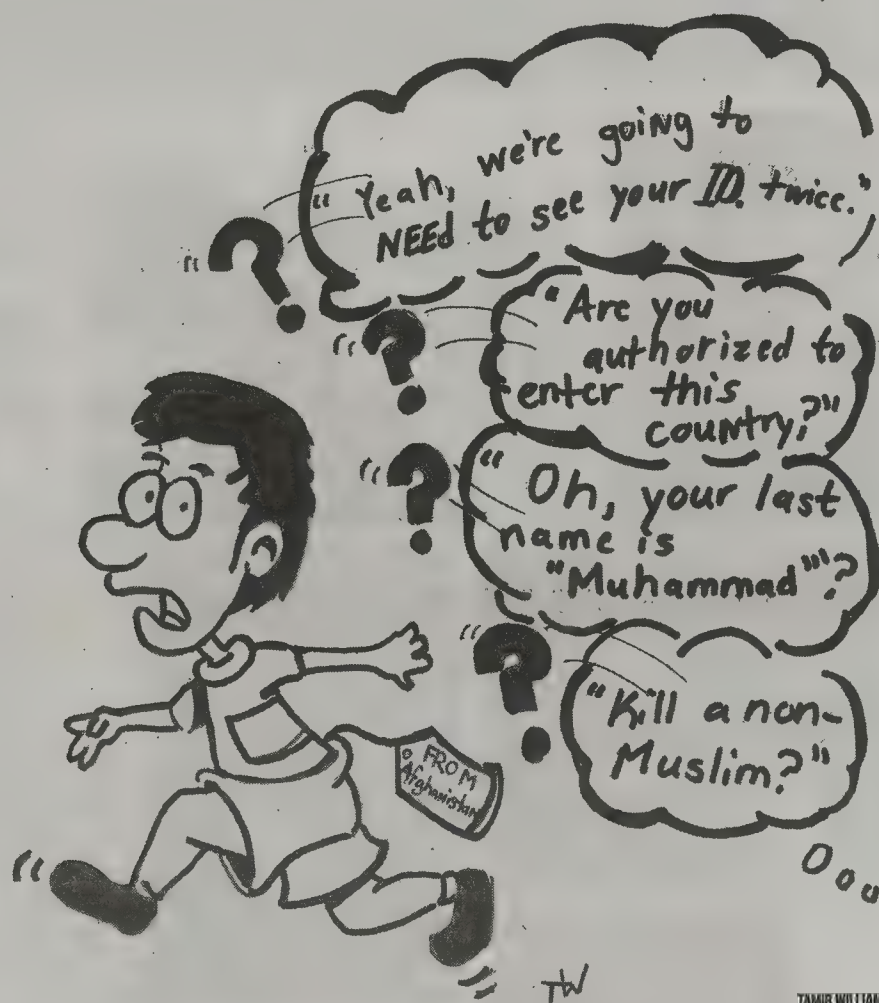
in support of the student cultural organization, Midd Included, and in particular their campaign to revise the Cultures

and Civilizations requirement at Middlebury. As Midd Included accurately puts it, "Under the current requirements, the college seems to place an emphasis on the study of Western cultures and civilizations, while minimizing the importance of all other cultures and civilizations of the world by lumping them together into one category." The aims of the campaign,

as its website articulates are to revise the Cultures and Civilizations requirement such that a student's course of study would have to cover a reasonably wide geographical and cultural range.

Middlebury College, like many small liberal arts schools in this country, trumpets the cultural diversity of its incoming classes each year with statistics about the numbers of countries and states represented. These numbers are indeed something to be proud of. Now it's time — or rather, past time — to reflect this interest in diversity at the pedagogical level, too. I hope that students, professors, and administrators will come together and support this important campaign.

Sincerely,
Nathan Jandl '05
PhD Candidate, Literary Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison



The More Beautiful World



STUDENT EMPLOYMENT SPOTLIGHT

KIM, ADRIAN LEONG, RENEE CHANG, ALI LEWIS, ANASTASIA
CAPATINA, IZZY FLEMING, NEVIE WETMORE, JIYA PANDYA



1 LANGUAGE TABLES HEAD WAITER RICARDO MARTINI '16

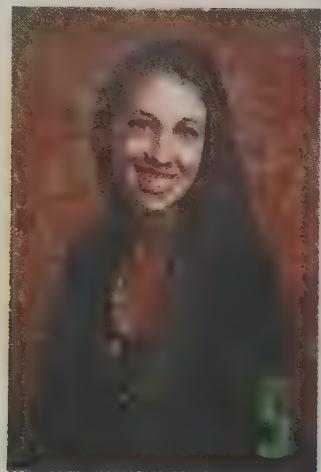
Ricardo Martini, is a language table superstar. He started working as a humble Italian waiter during the J-term of last year, and after just one semester, was chosen to be a head waiter this past fall. Martini says the position of Head Waiter is more than being a "glorified bus boy" in the dining room. "Behind the scenes, you have to clean the space, you have to mop, wipe down counters, grab the bread and salad, make sure everything's there, the dishes are there, the utensils. At the end of the day, it's under your belt that everything goes smoothly." When hiring new waiters/waitresses, Martini said he looks for applicants who are "patient and attentive and will actually put in an effort into translating the menu; that's why google translate and word reference exist!"

Martini also pointed out a key difference in shifting roles from a waiter to a head waiter. "You have more creative freedom as a waiter than as a head waiter where you have to act more like a responsible manager." He recalled, "One time [as a waiter], I wore a suit and I was part of the Italian Mafia serving them the food." However, Martini's favorite memory as a language table waiter was serving special birthday treats to tables accompanied by a hearty performance of "Buon Compleanno!"

"One thing I like to do with language tables is make people feel important," Martini said. "They're not just students sitting down [for a meal]; they're key members of the culture they're sitting at. I truly believe your mind changes based on the language you speak. Different cultures influence your thoughts and that's something great that can happen in a place like Ross Dining." Martini is now being promoted to the co-manager position alongside senior veterans, like Cameron McKinney '14 and Niko Lambert '14.

2 USHER JIAYI ZHU '14

"This is a really good time to be thinking about becoming an usher," Jiayi Zhu said, "because half of the current staff is going to be gone by the end of this year, so we need people to be trained now." There are few jobs on campus that make you look more professional than being an usher. The white-top-black-bottom classic attire exudes an air of professionalism. You have most probably by now seen an usher at work: they check your tickets and hand you a program at the door, lead you to your seat in the concert hall and do a whole host of other things that you never noticed. These include checking that all the exits are clear before an event begins, for example, and picking up the programs on the floor and in the seats after everyone has left. "Getting the job was quite straightforward," Zhu said. "Shannon Bohler-Small [Arts Events Manager] did an informal interview with me and asked me where the toilets are and how to go from the CFA [Center for the Arts] to Old Chapel, for example." You only need to have been trained for crowd management to be qualified for the job, since most things can be learnt on the job. "What I like about my job is that I get to go to the CFA for theatre performances, concerts and dance shows that I wouldn't have gone to otherwise. It's mostly our community members that make the most out of these opportunities," she said.



3 BIKE SHOP MECHANIC PARKER PELTZER '17

An avid mountain biker, Parker Peltzer spends many of his evenings at Middlebury Bike Shop teaching students how to repair their bikes or even construct new ones entirely from spare parts. Having worked in a bike shop throughout high school and during his most recent gap year, Peltzer first learned the

craft of fixing bikes through reading books including Zinn & the Art of Mountain Bike Maintenance and by watching repair videos online. "Fixing bikes has always been something that has felt familiar to me and remains something I enjoy," Peltzer said. "What I love most about my job at the shop is how enthusiastic the students are about fixing their own bikes here. Students who come in are ready to put in hours working on their bikes." Interestingly, Peltzer recalls that he first landed the job through a stroke of coincidence in a game of Nerf War. "I was at BiHall at midnight and one of the guys I was playing Nerf War with said he had to wake up early for the Tour de Farms, and that his bike was broken. I went and I fixed his bike and he happened to know who to talk to about a job opening at the bike shop." When asked if he had any advice for future prospective bike shop teachers, Peltzer encouraged students to drop by the workshop and get to know the work, the space, and the other mechanics. "As long as their skills are ready to go, I'd say that the most important quality is the ability to teach and communicate with others."

4 LEAD HELP DESK COMPUTER CONSULTANT ANIS MEBARKI '15

Anis Mebarki's rapper name at the Help Desk is A.M.—in part because of his initials and in part because he voluntarily takes the early morning shifts. He is "genuinely happy" to go to work each day. He greatly respects his boss, Joe Durante, who Mebarki feels is training the Help Desk employees for work in the real world. "It's way more than a job," Mebarki said; you get to learn, serve, and get paid. Mebarki has always enjoyed working with computers. Before coming to Middlebury he owned a Linux machine, an alternate operating system to Mac or PC which "was a full time job" but taught him a great deal about computer operations. When he arrived on campus in the fall of 2011, Mebarki saw an advertisement for positions at the Help Desk, applied, and was interviewed and selected for the job. Within that year, he worked his way up to become a lead computer consultant, which, coming from Algeria, felt like the American Dream to him. At the Middlebury Help Desk, if not everywhere in the US, Mebarki believes that hard work really pays off.

5 GIFT PLANNING OFFICE ASSISTANT MEGHAN BUCKLEY '17

Maybe one of the farthest "on campus" jobs for students is the post of Office Assistant at the Gift Planning Office, which is located off campus in the Painter House, across the street from Middlebury Inn.

Every afternoon, Monday to Friday, Meghan Buckley, makes the hike from her room at Hepburn to her desk at the Painter House, home of Middlebury founder, Gamaliel Painter, where she begins her two hour shift of answering phones and calling alumni.

"Depending on the weather, it can be a fifteen to twenty minute walk. Most days, I make it there in about fifteen."

Buckley, who landed the position after she saw a posting on the Student Employment webpage earlier this year, says she didn't realize "there are so many people who work at the college behind the scenes, making everything work for us. They put in so many hours, so much of their time, and I had no idea."

"The up is hearing about different alum's experiences from their time here. It makes me really appreciate the time I have here and makes me want to make the most of it."

6 CROSSROADS MARKETING DIRECTOR NAILA JAHAN '15

The brilliance of the Princess Peach and All That Razz smoothies at Crossroads Cafe has finally been uncovered. Naila Jahan, Middlebury's own vibrant Junior, has adopted the role of Marketing Director at our favorite student-run cafe. Illustrating the range of employment opportunities, Naila's job is simple: to make Crossroads sexy. Responsible for utilizing social media to publicize the cafe, Naila also collaborates with other workers to create new drink flavors, as well as their corresponding clever names. Her proudest accomplishment has been independently designing a new Crossroads website in hope to attract more attention from students. Although it can be difficult when an executed idea does not find success, the ability to simply "get [her] creative juices flowing" is her favorite part of the job. How did she land this gig? Connections. After getting a job at the cashier her first year with the help of her neighbor that already worked there, Naila gradually moved up to her marketing director position. Now, as the café greets more and more popularity each year, it is exciting for Naila to simply see the growing waiting list of students who wish to even work at the youthful cafe.

7 THEATER SET MAKER LYDIA DELEHANTY '17

When Lydia Delehanty arrived at Middlebury she was an experienced performer and musician, but had no knowledge about theatre and the backstage work that goes into a production. She saw a job posting for set construction on the student employment page and jumped at the chance to exercise her brain "in a way that classes don't." She's been building sets for Middlebury's various theatre productions, most recently Pentecost, since late September and is happy to have a job "that's active and actually requires thinking." Her main reservation about building sets? "I get covered in dust a lot. I end up leaving looking like I either have grey hair or really really bad dandruff." Despite the dust, Lydia plans to continue working set construction for the rest of the year. As she told me, before the job "I couldn't have actually gone and been like oh I can build this thing, but now I feel like I could do that."

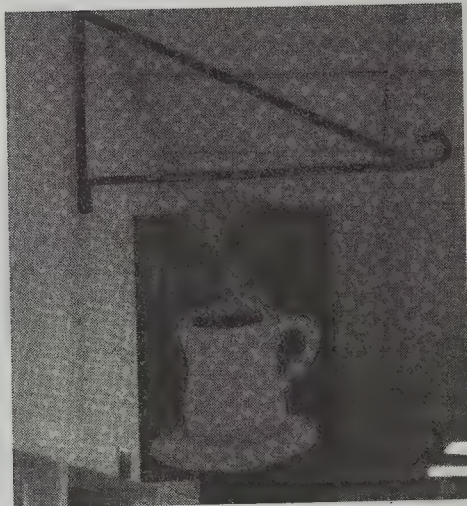
8 ADMISSIONS OFFICE VLADIMIR KREMENOVIC '17

Vladimir Kremenović, a first-year from Bosnia and Herzegovina, has been working at the admissions office since his first week in college. Admissions is one of the most sought after gigs by student employees, and Kremenović made sure to get on the job three months before he even got to Middlebury; with his job interview taking place on his first day on campus. Now, he helps with filing and documentation at the Admissions headquarters in the Emma Willard house, occasionally answering emails and phone calls and answering questions for prospective students and their families. He stated that good communication, openness and "a good spirit" are key skills for a job at Admissions. The strangest part of working with Admissions, he says, are the amount of questions, some ridiculous, that come from parents rather than the prospective student themselves. Although he acknowledges that alphabetizing files can get tedious at times, he enjoys the job, especially interacting with and meeting new people, saying that his favorite part is being able to contribute to a prospective student's decision in coming to Middlebury, that, as he puts it "might change their life." His advice to novices searching for jobs is to contact the offices directly and as early as possible, instead of waiting for online postings.

Can You Be My Friend?

One Student's Journey in Middlebury's Special Education High School

By Isabelle Stillman



ISABELLE STILLMAN

Students plan, cook and serve their own dishes every Friday in the TGIF Cafe.

Jack and Nicole have spent every weekday of the last five months together. At 7:45 a.m., Nicole picks Jack up at his house. Most mornings, they stop at Ferrisburgh Bakery on the way to school, so Nicole can get a breakfast sandwich; if she is in a good mood, she will buy Jack a cookie, too. At school, the two spend the morning going to classes, eat lunch together and cook in the afternoons. After school, Nicole usually drops Jack off at home at 3:15, but if he is lucky, Nicole takes him to the train tracks. Last week, they stood by the tracks for 45 minutes in the rain, playing I Spy while they waited for the train.

But Jack thinks Nicole is going to hell. Jack is the son of a devout Christian father; Nicole is into Buddhism. Jack has memorized the rules of Christianity and repeats them often. It is hard to tell if he understands what he is saying, but it does not matter; he is convinced. He will go to Heaven, and Nicole will not.

Jack is fourteen years old and in the ninth grade. Nicole is his personal behavior interventionist. Jack has long, thin fingers and Nike sneakers that are too big for his feet, so they bounce against his heels like flip-flops. His clothes are usually wrinkled, and he often tugs at the belt loop of his jeans to keep them from falling down. He is tall and fair-skinned with light blue eyes and buzz cut blonde hair that is prone to cowlicks. Most of the time Jack is either moving or making noise, often both. When he speaks, his words come out like train wheels hammering over tracks, one-toned and pounding one on the end of the other, stuttering and spewing thoughts that come faster than his lips can move; but when you ask him something, redirecting his train of thought, his voice gets soft, and he chooses his words carefully. Jack, whose name has been changed for this article, is speculated to be on the autism spectrum.

Jack goes to school at the Diversified Occupations Program (DO), a high school for special needs students in Middlebury. I visited the program and met Jack at the beginning of January and spent time with him throughout the month.

When I first met Jack, he was in the kitchen fiddling with the arm of an electric blue mixing bowl. His apron was crooked, his t-shirt caught in the knot around his hips. When his teacher Ms. Lynch told him to come say "hi" to me, he walked over slowly, one finger in his mouth. He offered me his left hand, placing it gently in my right, but Lynch corrected him, and he lent me his shaking hand instead.

"Are you Indian?" he asked, looking over my shoulder. His voice was high and loud, coming from a thin-lipped mouth ringed with faded acne marks.

Lynch interrupted. "Is that a firm handshake?"

When I responded, smiling, that it could be firmer, Jack tightened his grip. Then he looked at my eyes. "Can you be my friend I don't know if you can be my friend," he said in an even tone, as if it were one word.

"I can be your friend," I answered.

"I don't know if I can be your friend, can you be my friend?" His hand was still in mine, bobbing up and down evenly.

I repeated my answer and Jack continued to grip my hand lightly until Lynch broke the bond apart.

Jim Doolan and his wife Kay, both current substitute teachers, founded the DO program in 1970, spurred by the mid-60s formation of the Vermont Department of Education, which emphasized increasing special education opportunities. Uniting two small Addison County, Vt. special education classes, one based in a church basement and the other in an elementary school, and housing them in a closed-down Catholic School, the pair effectively cut the ribbon of the DO program, though the model looked different than today's. At its inception, DO focused foremost on academics and secondarily on daily living skills such as home economics and shop. Now the classes are centered on practical learning, and the students are more involved in the community. Programs like bird banding, an annual trip to D.C. and vocational opportunities have developed over the course of the program's life. These varied programs sprung up out of necessity to cater to a variety of individualized needs; DO students span a wide range of capacities, and DO prioritizes individualizing education so that each student graduates with a job and the skills they need to live independently.

Today, the program has 35 students in ninth through twelfth grades. They come from four area junior high schools (Vergennes, Mt. Abraham, Middlebury and Otter Valley), suggested for DO by their junior high case manager. Most of the students are learning impaired, which means their IQs are 77 or below (the average IQ is around 100); the rest test just a few points above 77. In the old days, said Lynch, this is what people called mental retardation. But Rosa's Law, signed by President Obama in October of 2010, replaced the term "mental retardation" with the phrase "intellectual disability" for use in federal health, education, and labor policy. Though the change has been gradual, the "R-word" has been essentially phased out of use nationwide, and is never heard at the DO program.

But the medical condition remains the same; learning impairments land most

students entering the DO program at a third grade level of academic comprehension. Even in light of this reality, DO does not prioritize expanding academic knowledge. Instead, the DO staff asks: "How do you take a third-grade level and translate that into adult functioning? What do [students] really need to know?"

The answer, according to Lynch: "You don't have to know physics, you don't have to have geometry, but you should know how to add and subtract. You should know how to do a budget, you should know how to be able to pay your bills and have really good work skills so you can have a job."

With 19 staff members working to specialize lessons for 35 students, DO's financial responsibility is astronomical. Tuition comes in at \$25,000, funded by the student's home school, 55 percent of which is reimbursed to the school by the state — "a deal," Lynch said, compared to other specialized programs, such as those for emotionally disturbed youth. But at such a low price, funding the program can be a struggle. Recent dips in enrollment — four or five fewer students than usual — necessitated cutting drivers' education.

To Lynch, it seems incredible that this operation succeeds so smoothly for such a low price, especially considering the caliber of staff members currently employed. In several different conversations, Lynch expressed her awe of the people she works with and the effect they have on their students.

"We have some really quality people right now working with kids," she said. "That's not always the case in public schools."

During my first visit, Jack and three other students were baking in preparation for DO's fully-functioning Friday afternoon restaurant, the TGIF Cafe. In the kitchen, I asked him if he was happy with how his cookies turned out.

"Why is your face clear?" he answered.

"I asked you about the cookies," I said.

"You don't have any bumps on your face, like most women do."

"The cookies, Jack," Nicole interjected.

He stared at my face. "You don't have any bumps on your face, you musta had acne treatment." He pointed at Nicole. "You have bumps on your face." She bit back a smile and shook her head.

"I know, Jack," she said.

Jack made a "g" sounds in the back of his throat.

"What did you do this morning?" I tried again.

"Kicked my own butt." His hands were elbow-deep in dough. Nicole gave him her look. "Stupid Jack," he said, smiling.

Later that day, Jack stood at the mixer at his assigned cooking station, stirring the ingredients as Lynch had showed him.

As I watched him pack brown sugar into a measuring cup, he asked me again if I could be his friend.

"I can be your friend," I answered. "Can you be my friend?"

"I don't know if I can be your friend I don't know." He looked down at the mounds of sugar in front of him. After a moment he looked back up. "Would you be my friend if I punched you in the face?"

"Probably not," I answered.

He smiled for a second. "Probably not, no."

Jack is just beginning to figure out what it means to have friends — the "can you be my friend" mantra is a recent development. At Vergennes Middle School, he had some friends, but at DO he doesn't think he has any.

"He's got more issues, I think, than the other kids, so they don't really know why he does what he does and what to make of him," Nicole explained.

At lunch, which the DO students eat in the Middlebury Union High School cafeteria, Jack sits with Nicole, and usually no one else. He likes to watch the high school students because he likes the shapes of their heads. But they are not his friends. It is hard to get Jack to explain why they are not his friends, though he is convinced of this fact.

Continued on next page.

SPECIAL EDUCATION IN ADDISON COUNTY, VT

AUTISM:

1/88

AMERICAN CHILDREN HAVE THE DISORDER

1/54 BOYS

1/252 GIRLS

A 10X INCREASE IN THE PAST 40 YEARS

90 v. 70.07

% OF STUDENTS WITH IEPs WHO QUALIFY FOR HIGH SCHOOL WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

ADDISON SCHOOLS' STUDENTS WITH IEPs FAIL TO SPEND AN APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF TIME IN REGULAR CLASSROOMS.

* IEP

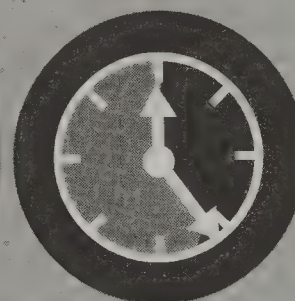
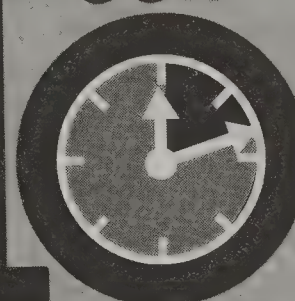
(INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN): STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR SOME SORT OF SPECIALIZED EDUCATION

% OF DAY SPENT IN REGULAR CLASSROOM SETTING:

80%

40%

0%



% OF STUDENTS WITH IEPs WHO SPEND THE ABOVE PERCENT IN REGULAR CLASSROOM SETTING

STATE GOAL:

79%

7%

3.75%

ADDISON REALITY:

59.91%

17.02%

7.98%

Tenny, One; Mother Nature, Zero

By Harry Cramer

After just a few minutes aboard the white maintenance truck, Luther Tenny, the man in charge of calibrating snow removal, noticed that I had forgotten gloves. Buzz, as he is fondly known, kindly offered me his own, and explained that the success of campus snow removal depends on the entire crew.

"The campus is divided into North, Central and Athletics," he informed me, "and all of the entrances around every building have to be clean."

After snowstorms like Wednesday's, a variety of departments work together to clean up campus.

"It's not just the landscaping crew," said Tenny. "It's the custodians, the carpentry, electrical, Plumbing, HPAC — we all come in as a team."

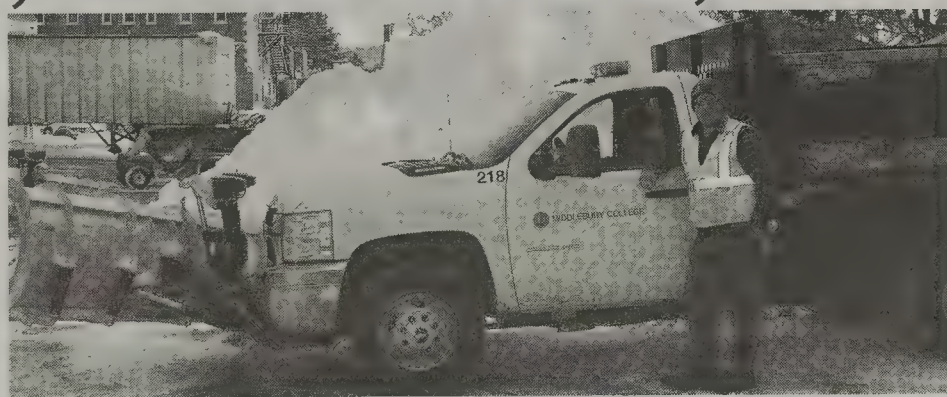
The various crews are each assigned to sections of the campus.

"Say you got crew eight," Tenny said, "They'll take care of Bihall, the Mods, Ridge-line woods, the Bunker house, Aidiron-dack view [...] they know what section to go through."

Workers also carry radios to contact each other and Luther, who may reassign them to "problem areas." Like an officer driving a Jeep through the battlefield, Tenny continually lauded his "men" for their expertise and hard work.

"There are a few guys who have been here fifteen plus years," he informed me reverently.

"[Roger Bagley] can run that backhoe like you can move your hand," Tenny said as we drove by the massive machine. "He could pick up a glass on the ground without breaking it."



PAUL GERARD

Snow removal expert Luther Tenny enjoyed hours of plowing after last week's storm.

Although machines like Bagley's account for some of the work, many areas can only be cleared by shoveling. If all ten crews are working, Tenny figures they can clear the campus in three or four hours.

Not all of the shoveling is straightforward, either. The top of Bihall is cleared without snowblowers because ventilators could draw fumes from the machines into the building. "It's big and it's windy," Tenny said of the roof. "So you'll throw over a shovel, and you gotta duck because sometimes it comes right back at you."

Since the campus has roughly 200 buildings, 13 miles of sidewalk, and spans across 300 acres, certain buildings take precedence. Public Safety, both dining halls, residences, and areas of heavy student-traffic all are prioritized.

As Mr. Tenny drove by the Feb. orientation in Axxin, he gestured towards the building. "Right now the freshman are coming in

with their parents for the luncheon," he said, "so we want to make sure that whole area is clean."

Many bleary-eyed students began their spring semesters with an early meal in Ross or Proctor. However, in order to keep the dining halls open after the storm, maintenance began their work long before 8 a.m.

"We'll come in at three in the morning. [...] We do most of the plowing in the morning," Tenny hollered above the din of the truck's engine. "Right now we're just trying to stay on top of it. I'll have all of the shovelers come in at six."

Although the job is taxing, Tenny laughed when asked if clearing the sidewalks so students can walk to spin class has made him bitter over the years.

"I'm not bitter," he chuckled. "I'm just amazed at what we do. I want other people to realize that we work hard here."

Special Education in Action

Continued from previous page

When I asked, he told me it was too hard to explain and that he was confused, but sometimes he says it was because the other kids do not look as young as him. I asked him if this was the only thing that mattered in friends.

"It matters nice and have fun with them," he said, then shook his head. "It's too hard to explain."

I didn't let it go, and finally he told me, "Maybe I'll be too jealous of them because they have too deep voice and I don't have deep voice. I wish my voice changed, I wish I was in puberty. Like a year ago I was saying, — he made his voice high — "Mom, when will my voice change?" He laughed.

One day, Nicole and I stood in the corner of the kitchen, when Jack scuttled over and leaned in between us.

"I have a question," he said, staring at my nose. "Are you a Christian?" His eyes were wide and serious, his words coming quickly. I nodded.

"So that means you believe in God?" I nodded again. "So that means you believe in Jesus?" Nod. "So that means you believe he died on the cross for our sins? So that means you believe you're going to heaven?" I was overwhelmed. I hadn't thought about these questions for a long time, but I nodded again. "That's good," he said, bobbing his head violently up and down. "I'm happy."

Jack used to talk to Nicole about Christianity all day, until Nicole told him one day they weren't going to discuss it anymore. A few times, Nicole tried to explain her views to Jack, and after listening to her talk about reincarnation for a while, he started to nod along. Then he said, "I believe in Jesus," and told her reincarnation is the work of Satan, his Dad's views coming back through by heart. From time to time, Jack asks Nicole if she believes in Jesus now, but she never does. It disappoints him for a moment, but does not seem to affect their relationship otherwise.

One-on-one, Jack seems easier to talk to, but his thoughts and ideas always surprise me as they come out percussively and quickly.

After baking cookies one morning, we were sitting together in the planning room, when Jack spotted a doodle in my stack of loose papers. It was a green pen dinosaur. He stopped mid-sentence and sat up straight.

"Did you draw that?" he asked. I said yes, and he laughed, grabbed the paper and took my pen to the sheet.

"Hey, that's my paper," I said, trying to get

him to stop. He giggled mischievously. "It's not nice to take people's things and draw on them." I couldn't get his attention; he was absorbed in the cartoon creature. After a second, he held the paper up and looked at me, a full smile on his face. He had drawn a speech bubble coming from the dinosaur. "Hi Jack."

I smiled. "Ok, I'm not mad anymore." But that same day in Social Skills class, he was less charming. "Can I draw now? Can I draw now?" he repeated, banging his hands on the table, while the rest of the class tried to focus on the problem-solving exercise at hand — Mr. O's daughter was sick at school, but how could he help her if he has to stay at work?

"Can I draw now? Can I draw now? Can I draw now?" Jack said. He was bent at the waist and his shoulders smushed against the edge of the table. "Can I draw now? Can I draw now?"

Mr. O took the opportunity to redirect the class discussion. Jack's desire to draw and his inability to do so during class became the new problem the group had to solve. The other students immediately engaged in the issue at hand, paying no attention to Jack's antics. Jack did not so much as look at Mr. O. Mr. O began to write out Jack's various options on a bullet-pointed worksheet. Jack could either: 1) keep asking, 2) start misbehaving or 3) negotiate.

"Stupid eee crap." Jack's forehead hit on the table, and his signature high-pitched "e" sound filled the room. The other students did not react, focused on Mr. O's words.

"Stupid eee crap." Then Jack was up out of his chair and at the glass door that leads outside. "I think there's a train."

A moment later he was back at the table. Class discussion had not paused. Thirty seconds later, Jack said he thought there was a train again, and this time was out the door, into the negative eight degree morning. Mr. O did not pause the lesson, trained instead to let Nicole and Jack sort out the issue while he worked with the other students.

Later that day, I sat next to Jack at the beginning of math class, and he babbled throughout Lynch's instructions.

"Do you believe that Jesus died on the cross? I like you. Do you know the m word? Are you my friend?" I put my finger to my lips, and he responded with a 'b' noise, bouncing his lips against each other. Across the table, Melissa, blinking her big brown eyes and pursing her small but usually smiling mouth, asked him to stop, and he did. Deep down in the train tracks of his brain, he knows how he is "supposed to" behave.

Nicole doesn't know if Jack will be able

to hold a job when he graduates from high school. It will take him a while to learn how to interact with people socially.

"Even if he bagged groceries at the supermarket, he needs to learn not to get in people's faces and not to ask a million questions," she said.

DO's ultimate goal is to place their graduates in steady jobs, but Jack's ambiguous future is not an exception among the pool of DO alumni. "Success" seems an almost irrelevant qualification for DO teachers — their students are too varied and individualized.

About a third of DO alumna hold full-time jobs and live completely independently. Others work part time and live with family members or friends. Graduates who test below 70 IQ points qualify for adult services, and receive formal assistance, usually through Counseling Services of Addison County (CSAC). In 2012, DO had ten graduates, eight of whom had 20 to 25 hours per week employment and two of whom declined employment because they were moving out of the area. In 2013, all four of DO's graduates had paid employment upon graduation — one was full time, three were 20 to 25 hours per week. Overall, Lynch estimates that half of her students graduate with adult services requirements.

As for Nicole, she won't be with Jack next September. The center is an hour-long commute from her home in Burlington, an unsustainable commitment, she told me, with clear sadness in her eyes. "I don't know if there's anywhere else like this. This is a very special place."

For now, Nicole and Jack will continue to hang out together, watching trains and baking cookies, even though Nicole is not a Christian, and Jack is not sure if she is his friend.

One day I asked Jack if he ever tried to make friends with the other kids at DO.

"I don't really have friends here," he answered. "But you're kind of my friend." He looked away and scratched his head. "I don't have that much — I don't have — much friends — here much friends — I think you're my only friend here."

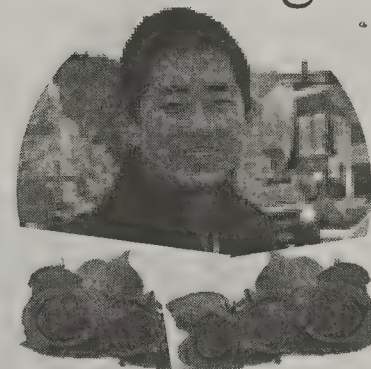
I was curious. What made me different than the other students?

"Because you're a Christian," Jack answered. He held my pen in his fist, clicking the end of it against his head. I told him lots of people are Christian.

"Uhh...I like the sound of your voice," he said quietly. "Your voice sounds calm and kind. You're a Christian which is good, it means you'll go to heaven some day." His voice was slow and soft. "And you're a nice person."

I told him he is a nice person too.

Dining, Dating & Dashing



By Ryan Kim

There are two types of people at Middlebury: those who are in committed relationships and those who wish they were. If you're not in a "Midd Marriage", you're romantic life is limited to either alcohol-fueled hookups or banishment to the desolate land of loneliness. We're pinned between meaningless sex and sexless solitude. Certainly Middlebury would be a better place if we all just dated a little more.

We have a collective interest in asking others out, getting asked out, going on dates, sampling for soul mates. Yet at the individual level, we're often unwilling to step into this dangerous territory; the fear of embarrassment is very real. I'm not sure if it's the chicken or the egg, but our reluctance to take romantic chances is definitely connected to the "get-smashed-go-cray" atmosphere that dominates Middlebury weekends.

Admit it, you're afraid to ask her out. With this column, I venture that I've got the best excuse of anyone to ask girls out, and yet I'm nervous with every approach. If I'm not nervous, it means I don't care enough and shouldn't be asking in the first place. However, what's worse than the unnerving approach is when I let feigned apathy mask my fear of rejection, and use it as an excuse to do nothing. It's easy to get cold feet and say, "Oh, I don't really care that much."

After all, I regret what never happened vastly more than I regret whatever has. The sting of a rejection fades a lot quicker than the lingering pangs of wondering, "What if?" There are times when I'm rooted to my seat, sickened by my pathetic inaction. I know I should do something, but instead settle for a sleepless night, frustrated at my chicken-hearted swooning.

And as far as leaps of faith go, romantic ones are the best ones to take. You can't be more vulnerable with someone than by sharing your feelings; people have emotionless sex all the time. Forget what the doctors say, the heart is far softer and more delicate than the penis. (Don't think about it too much.) But truly, you win the most when you risk the most. It's beautiful to be vulnerable.

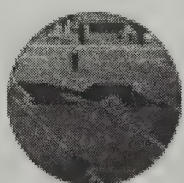
What it comes down to is this: a healthy dating scene is like the legendary stone soup. We've all got our singleton vegetables that we're afraid lose by putting out on the table, but maybe if we throw it all into the pot and mix around a little bit, we can make something delicious for everyone to share. You can't drag your feet to a party then blame everyone else for not being fun. If we want dating to be a part of our culture, we each have to make an effort to date.

Tomorrow is Valentine's Day; it's also the full moon, which makes it an exceptional day. You don't have to be in love with someone to bring her a flower or take her out for a coffee. The whole point of casual dating is to trial run romance before anything gets too serious. Go for a country drive through Rip-ton; split a few chocolate truffles made by my good man Erlé (farmhousestruffles.com). Tomorrow night I want to see everyone out on the moonlit snow, floating in pairs to the Organic Garden. C'mon now, take a chance!

I'm no authority on dating, just another kid who wished he dated more. In any case, defining the "right" way to date is like choosing the bluest shade of blues; it's subjective and circumstantial. This column represents nothing more than my opinions about the predicament of not-dating at Middlebury and my effort to inspire a romantic rebellion. Let me know how your perspective coincides or differs at rkim@middlebury.edu.

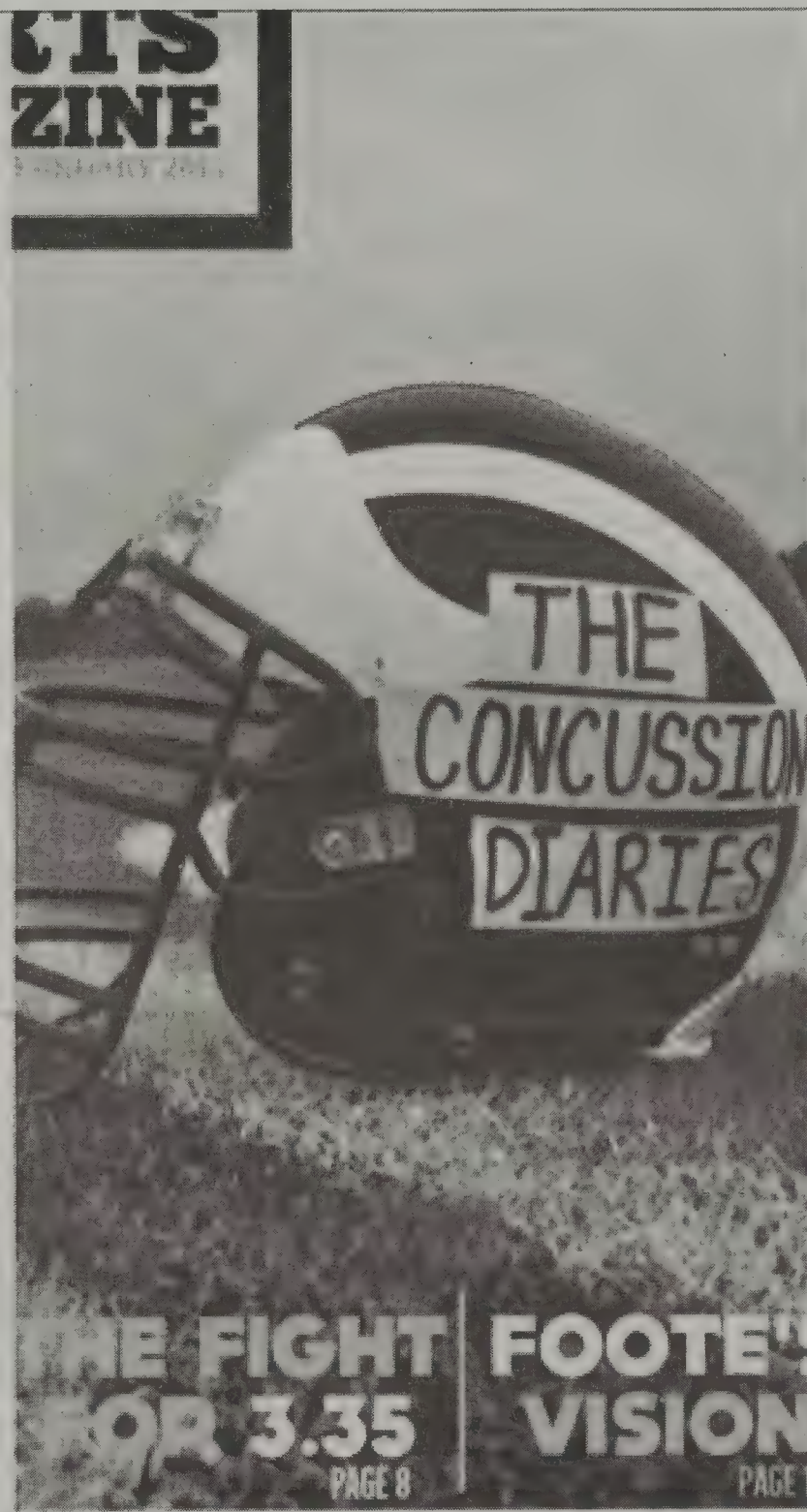
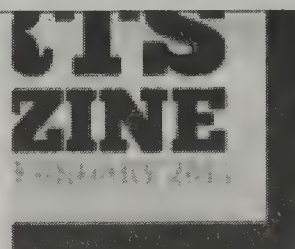


Instagram



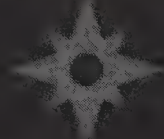
middcampus

7s



♥ hannahbristol, mollytalbert, jibbmiesta, yawnstewart, anna_clements, isabellepisabelle, alexroseedel, tifannychang, underbrinkp

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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Middlebury Brings New Life to Classic

By Leah Lavigne

The Town Hall Theater presented its eighth J-term musical, the legendary *Les Misérables*, to four packed crowds Jan. 23-26. This collaboration between the Town Hall Theater and the College Department of Music showcases well-known vocal and theatrical talents as well as student actors and singers from a variety of other academic disciplines. The intensive nature of J-term allows students from any department the opportunity to focus their undivided attention on the production of a fully staged musical in just three weeks. The results have proved wildly popular, with tickets to all four performances of *Les Mis* selling out on the first day of sales.

Full disclosure: as a musical junkie, *Les Mis* is one of my top five favorites. After countless hours spent listening to various cast recordings, one attempt to read the English translation of Victor Hugo's original 1,500 page novel (currently paused at page 372) and a viewing of the 1998 dramatic adaptation with Liam Neeson and Geoffrey Rush, the music and story of *Les Mis* are extremely familiar to me.

The musical is one of the longest running in history and has been seen live by an estimated 65 million people in 42 countries, not to mention the millions of new viewers first exposed by the highly-publicized 2012 Hollywood production featuring Hugh Jackman and Anne Hathaway. Following the life story of Jean Valjean, an ex-convict who finds redemption through faith, honesty and hard work, *Les Mis* discusses heavy themes plaguing revolutionary France, such as prostitution, rampant crime, political unrest and poverty. The over 20 major and minor characters and extended timeline surely present any creative team with a unique challenge when adapting *Les Mis*.

As I took my place in the audience, I was excited and a bit nervous to see how the College would contribute to the long list of productions.

There is a brief, electric moment in a theater when the lights dim as the murmur of the crowd makes way for the tuning of the orchestra. Violins and violas play their final practice notes before the conductor raises her arms, and the audience takes a collective breath, waiting for the first measure to prompt the opening scene. In *Les Mis*, this anticipation of the unknown made way for the male members of the ensemble singing the first notes of 'Look Down', each sporting a prison uniform as they worked together to pull an off-stage ship. This scene also introduced the tense relationship between the main character, Jean Valjean, and Javert, the strict and intimidating police inspector who spends his life searching for the escaped Valjean in order to exact the justice he thinks is deserved.

The nine principal characters were excellently cast, with Quinn Bernegger '13.5 tackling his last role at the College with nuance and determination. As the lead, Bernegger was required to be on stage for almost every scene, and his clear, powerful tenor was extremely well-suited for the wide range and emotion of song necessary to play the ex-convict turned honest man. The intensely emotional 'Bring Him Home' and 'Who Am I' were understandably met by rousing applause. Bernegger conveyed the heartbreak and morality of Jean Valjean through his advanced ability to shape words and music into an expression of complex character.

An imposing Javert appeared in the form of Mike McCann '15, his height and black inspector costume combining beautifully with his strong vocals to create a believable antagonist to Valjean's reformation. Especially powerful was 'Javert's Soliloquy,' when McCann conveyed the inner turmoil of a man who realizes that his unfailing reliance on the morals of the law is no match for the genuine compassion and honesty of Valjean.

A few key props cleverly positioned on the grid of metal pipes at the back of the stage

addressed the issue of conveying the many scenes and locations of *Les Mis*, allowing for the illusion of even more action off stage. A stained glass cross and a clock were just a few of the many props placed on the grid to indicate a change of time or place, and old doors were positioned in the second act to build the battle barricade between the on-stage revolutionaries and the off-stage French soldiers. Risers remained in the same U-shaped position throughout, allowing more opportunities for depth and travel without additional scenery. At times, the stage seemed incredibly sparse, sometimes only sporting one or two objects, but the smart blocking and captivating, colorful costumes allowed for the minimalist set design.

Evann Normandin '14.5 played Fantine, a factory worker shunned by society and forced into prostitution to raise funds for her daughter's care. Eventually selling her luscious locks for money, Fantine's tragic downfall is captured in the iconic 'I Dreamed a Dream,' a song that reflects on the hopes of youth erased by the harsh realities of single motherhood and working class life in 1860s France. Fantine's death and request of Valjean to care for her young daughter, Cosette, dictate the direction of the plot for the rest of the musical. A fan of *Les Mis* since she was 11, Normandin said that playing Fantine was a dream come true.

"She is such a complex and tragic character, and I enjoyed the process of pushing myself and being pushed and directed by Doug to find ways to let go of myself more in each rehearsal," she said. "It was emotionally draining to play a character who falls so deeply into despair, and to access those emotions every night in rehearsal and then eventually performance definitely took a toll. She's a character who is very much a victim and reacts to the often abusive treatment she receives, but the challenge for me was finding moments of strength, especially in 'I Dreamed a Dream' which is much more interesting for me when it doesn't stay on one emotional note."

Indeed, Normandin brought the sorrow and despair of Fantine alive in her short time on stage before her character's death, her skilled voice cracking appropriately with emotion as her character declined physically and emotionally.

Costume designers Danielle Nieves '10

and Krista Duke '15 crafted exquisitely detailed, visually stunning costumes that provided an excellent complement to the powerful music of *Les Mis*. From the silver buckles on Javert's police uniform to the garish floral print on Thenardier's pants to the intricate rouching and layering on the prostitutes' dresses, details propelled the costumes from good to phenomenal.

Adam Milano '15 used his experience as a member of the Otter Nonsense Players comedy group to inject laughter into the occasionally somber themes of the musical, prancing onto the stage as the crooked innkeeper in 'Master of the House,' and delivering the complicated, quick lyrics of the song with ease.

Dana Tripp '14 proved the perfect pairing as the innkeeper's wife, showcasing strong vocals and comedic timing as she proved her wit and intelligence while lamenting her position as the partner of a lousy criminal. Together, Tripp and Milano formed a well-loved pair, garnering a rousing cheer from the audience as they took their final bow.

The 24 members of the ensemble added immensely to the work of the principal characters, contributing to the gorgeous harmonies of ensemble songs such as 'Lovely Ladies,' the whimsically choreographed 'At the End of the Day,' and the central 'One Day More.' The high quality performances were telling of the exceptional talents of each cast member.

Adding even more to the polished product was the subtle presence of the orchestra, comprised of twelve student and community musicians and conducted by Hannah Rose Rommer '08.5. The sweeping, enchanting melodies of *Les Mis* are the backbone of the piece, some themes repeating many times throughout the show to tie specific events or characters together. The orchestra was relatively small but powerful, adding a captivating layer of dimension.

As the second act progresses, Fantine's daughter, Cosette, grows into a beautiful, refined young woman under the protection of Valjean, and her innocence and foray into first love were captured by Julianne Wieboldt '14, whose high soprano voice easily met the challenges of the score. Cosette falls for a brave young revolutionary, Marius, played by Thomas Scott '15. Scott's understated, sooth-

ing voice matched well with his character, who must grapple with the death of his fellow revolutionaries after finding his 'one true love.'

Watching the young lovers from the sideline is Eponine, daughter of the low-class Thenardiers who has known and loved Marius for some time. Alyssa Dillon '15.5's smooth, wide-ranging voice portrayed the heartbreak of unrequited love beautifully; love and regret combined in songs 'On My Own' and 'A Little Fall of Rain,' in which Eponine dies in the arms of her beloved, comforted in her last moments by Marius' proclamation of platonic affection.

Not to be left out is Mohan Fitzgerald '14, whose powerful vocals and expressions lent themselves nicely to Enjolras, Marius' best friend and brave proponent of the revolution.

Eryn Diehl, Lillea Isham and Tyler Giorgio were excellent as young Cosette, young Eponine and Gavroche, the three children's roles in the musical. All three displayed high levels of professionalism and talent as they sang of hopes for better days and showed maturity beyond their years.

Normandin, who is a double major in Theatre and English, notes that the J-term production experience is distinct from a typical semester-long schedule.

"I've been exposed to theatre that makes me think deeply and critically for an entire semester in faculty shows," she said. "The J-term musical has been an entirely different experience in terms of the somewhat universal appeal of *Les Mis* and the expedited work schedule. We work so quickly that sometimes you're still finding important moments in dress rehearsal, and that freshness can be exhilarating."

Director Doug Anderson, Music Director Carol Christensen and the over 60 involved students presented a fresh, engaging adaptation that proved equally accessible to long-time fans and first-time viewers of the 25-year-old musical. *Les Misérables* is full of death and despair, but ultimately has grown in popularity because of its messages of hope and strength in the face of adversity. Middlebury's adaptation was ambitious, powerful and ultimately, a huge success. In my mind, there is no question as to why the J-term musicals have proven so popular after watching *Les Mis*.



ANTHEA VIRAHN

The ensemble of *Les Misérables* sings 'Do You Hear the People Sing' as they prepare to battle the French government.

DON'T MISS THIS

The Vagina Monologues

A cast of twelve students is directed by Rebecca Coates-Finke '17 in this compilation of monologues about the feminine experience. The production benefits WomenSafe.

2/14 8 AND 10:30 P.M. HEPBURN ZOO

Wadjda

The first feature film shot entirely in Saudi Arabia by the country's first female director, Haifaa Al-Mansour. Presented as part of the Hirschfeld International Film Series, 'Wadjda' is the award-winning story of an enterprising young Saudi girl. Free.

2/15 3 AND 8 P.M. DANA AUDITORIUM

The Dick Forman Jazz Group

An evening of sophisticated mainstream jazz with Dick Forman on piano, Paul Asbell on guitar, Michael Zsoldos on sax, Jim Daggs on bass and Geza Carr on drums. Blues, bebop and swing are among the many genres explored by the group.

2/15 8 P.M. MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Flicker Lets Student Art Shine

By Mandy Kimm

As the lights went dark in the Middlebury College Dance Theatre on Jan. 30, the audience waited with anticipation to see Flicker light up the space with new works by student dancers, choreographers, poets and artists. A culmination of a J-term project directed by Aoife Duna '16.5 and Octavio Hingle-Webster '17, Flicker showcased twelve student pieces ranging from film to spoken word to dance.

For Duna, Flicker began as a dance showcase.

"The production started out with the goal of creating a supportive place for new dancers to explore and create their work," Duna said.

Though the event was initially intended to highlight only one art form, Flicker rapidly expanded to include various artistic disciplines. During J-term students got together each week to share their progress and critique each other.

"The weekly meetings allowed artists to dig deeper into [their] creative visions," Duna said.

The evening began with "Artski," a short cinematographic exploration created by Adeline Cleveland '13.5 and Sarah Briggs '14. Stop motion photography allowed the audience to see color swirling onto Cleveland's and Briggs' chests and faces as the two danced through landscapes. The film also forayed into the artistic possibilities of skiing as Cleveland and Briggs filmed themselves trailing red fabric and balloons behind them down a ski slope.

Following the short film, Lorena Neira '17 performed her solo piece, "Hay un Niño en la Calle," meaning "There is a child in the street." In her tender portrayal of the vulnerability of a lonely child without a home, Neira clung to a symbol of comfort in the form of a shirt she picked up from the floor and bore on her shoulders. Throughout the performance, Neira probed the emotional possibilities of strength and child-like joy in the face of hardship.

In keeping with Flicker's goal of providing an outlet for a wide range of artistic endeavors, Victoria Sheffield '14.5's spoken word performance followed Neira's piece. With a confidently amused expression on her face, Sheffield walked onto the stage in silence, rolling up her shirt as she leaned forward and executed an undulating belly roll. Thus began her tale of confidence and pursuing one's desires despite setbacks, which brought smiles to the audience.

"The Ways We Gaze," choreographed and performed by Hingle-Webster and dancers Dave Yedid '16 and Vladmir Kremenovic '17, was set to a dance party beat that gave the piece the energy of a night out. The intensity of movement and the dark make-up flourishing the expressions

of the dancers matched that energy, as the lyrics of "Sweat (On The Walls)" by John Tejada raised the questions, "What do you think about at night?" and "What is it that brings you here?" The most striking image halfway through the piece was a fierce gaze of the dancers into the audience, each reaching straight ahead with one hand and placing the fingers of the other hand artfully around one eye, as if demanding that the audience respond to the questions.

Celeste Allen's "All These Bitches Crawl" was a dance and spoken word exploration of the artist's sexuality and her struggle over time to navigate that part of her identity in a society that pressures and influences the choices one makes about sexual self-expression. The interaction with sexuality was brought into physical form with the use of a chair, which Allen sat on, stood on, overturned and eventually carried with her at the conclusion of the piece. The performance alternated between dance portions in which Allen embodied a sexual character to the sound of well-known songs with sexual themes, and spoken portions when Allen would interact with the chair as a representation of her sexual identity outside of herself. This contrast between a physical self with the music and an emotional self in silence raised the question of who we become when we allow the often degrading messages of popular music to cover our own voices.

"Sunday Roast," a dance piece about a dysfunctional family dinner, was reminiscent of images of Thanksgiving gatherings gone terribly wrong. Choreographed by Molly Rose-Williams '14 and performed by Cleveland, Duna, Emily Goins '17, Neira and Molly Stuart '15.5, the piece began with an uncomfortable scene around a dinner table with one chair missing, forcing each disgruntled member of the family to squat at different moments during the piece. The situation quickly deteriorated into an animalistic scene of chaos in a well-crafted blend of dance and theater in which the smallest member of the unfortunate family is placed on the table and mock-carved like the very meat the family had been eating before. This less-than-subtle allusion highlighted the ridiculous nature of the victimization of one's own family members when dinner interactions go awry.

At the only moment in the evening when two pieces directly intermingled, the dinner scene's dramatic climax was interrupted by the sound of a doorbell, which placed the family back in their seats as two guitarists entered the stage and were greeted by the family. The dancers of "Sunday Roast" soon cleared the stage and left Matt Spitzer '17 and Auberin to their piece, "Parody of Two Guys Playing Guitar." The pair performed two lighthearted songs, joking

between the pieces that they didn't know why the audience was laughing.

Breaking from the playful tone of Spitzer and Strickland's performance, Kremenovic's "Proshlost" presented a more dramatic tone enhanced by the shadowy blue stage lighting. Kremenovic performed a morning routine, going through the motions of a shower and venturing out into the day with arching leaps and dramatic falls before returning to the beginning of the routine and starting over several times, each more desperate than the last. Eventually Kremenovic broke from the routine and stripped to a pair of nude briefs, giving the illusion of utterly bare motion. Nearly naked before the audience, Kremenovic's movement felt free and honestly expressive without the routine motion the clothes symbolically tied him to.

"Night Terrors," choreographed by Duna, kept the intense tone alive as dancers Goins, Neira, Anna Ready-Campbell '13.5, Veronica Rodriguez '17.5, Sheffield, Megan Vargas '17 and Rose-Williams performed a dance of dreams and nightmares. Through the intricate and beautifully executed choreography, the dancers' depiction of fear triggered a kind of frozen observance from the audience that was unnervingly close to the experience of real nightmares.

Alan Sutton '15 brought the audience back to reality with his spoken word performance of "Kinky Voices," in which he brought out a desk and painted his nails while recounting a piece that simultaneously played behind him in video form.

Cameron McKinney '14 began "This-Worldiness," which he and visiting faculty member Tiffany Rhynard choreographed, with the shocking initial visual of walking onstage slowly dragging a skeleton attached to his ankle. McKinney's motion throughout the piece was characteristically precise and intentional, but the most stunning moment in the piece was McKinney's embodiment of primate-like movement.

The evening of varied artistic endeavors closed with "Opus One," artistically influenced by Laura Strom '14.5 and performed by Middlebury's tap group On Tap. The joyful tap piece contrasted brightly with the modern dance styles of the other dance pieces and ended Flicker on a high note.

Duna and Hingle-Webster plan to put on future Flicker productions each month of the spring semester.

"We hope to continue creating this space for student-created art and community on campus," Duna said.

All interested individuals can contact Aoife Duna (aduna@middlebury.edu) or Octavio Hingle-Webster (ohinglewebster@middlebury.edu) for information on those productions.

SCIENCE and SOCIETY

By Will Henriques

The Olympic conversation at lunch the other day turned to genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Someone mentioned that Russia is attempting to ban GMOs outright (check out the Feb. 3 article on the Russian news site RT under the headline "Total ban on GMO food production mulled in Russia"). There was much head shaking around the table over the fact that, in the United States, the government is struggling to even get GMOs labeled. Someone commented that it seemed wrong to be messing with the plants and animals that make our food in the laboratory, conjuring images of pipettes and test tubes and 75 percent ethanol.

It is interesting to note the strong emotional response many seem to have to GMOs. I routinely get emails from Food Democracy Now! Similar to this Jan. 24 plea:

"Dear Will, If you haven't heard, apples are the single most popular fruit served in school lunchrooms across the U.S. and a fruit so iconic it was the fruit that inspired Isaac Newton's theory of gravity and the heartbeat of the phrase, 'as American as apple pie!'"

"Tragically, a Canadian firm has created a new GMO apple, using a new 'gene silencing' technique that could interfere with the expression of genes in humans, even silencing vital human genes, potentially causing serious health problems."

LET'S THINK A LITTLE HARDER ABOUT GMOs

Of course, my immediate emotional response is: how could anyone possibly let a company sell such an apple? But then, the Molecular Biology and Biochemistry major in me pauses; what is this new "gene silencing" technique? And how does it work? And what vital human genes does it silence? And where is all of the research that proves these claims? Where is the data?

Some quick Google work reveals that the company in question is Okanagan Specialty Fruits, which strives "to develop new commercial tree fruit varieties that offer exciting benefits to the entire supply chain, from growers to consumers," according to their website.

The genetically modified apple in question is a strain that the company has created called Arctic® apples. The company claims that the apples do not brown from "bruising, cutting, or biting."

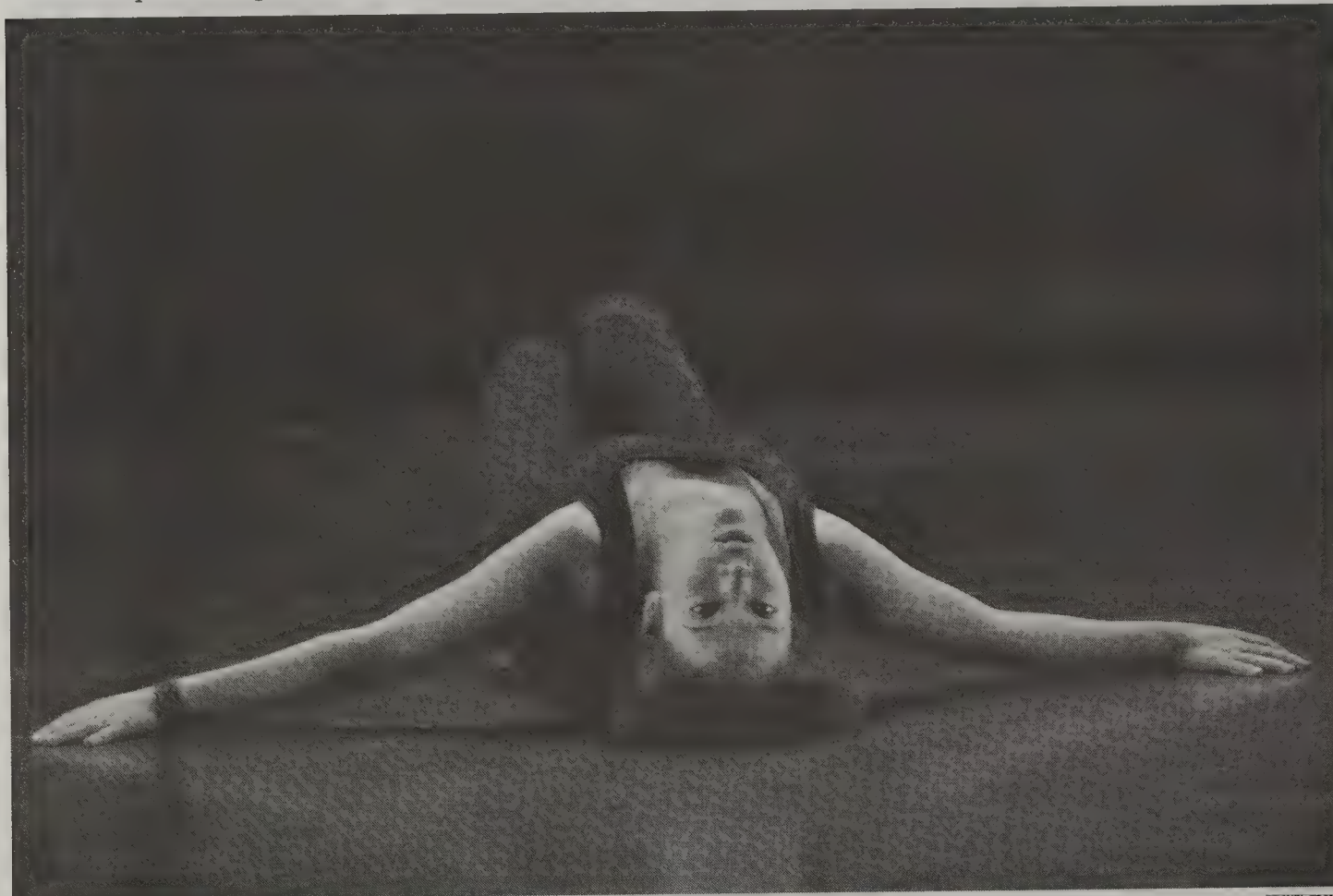
Apparently, scientists at Okanagan Specialty Fruits stopped the browning process by suppressing production of the enzyme polyphenol oxidase (PPO). The technique was developed by Australian researchers in potatoes. The technique used to silence the production of PPO is called RNA interference. I won't go into details here, but it's a fascinating technique.

Where is the research demonstrating that the act of eating a fruit expressing PPO suppression RNA can have dangerous effects on human health? Entire books have been written on the subject. It is vast, complex and intricate, and there is no easy answer to the question of the safety of GMOs.

So, what's my point? I find the strong emotional response to GMOs expressed by individuals, non-profits groups like Food Democracy Now! and governments intriguing and disturbing. Though, for the record, I find the actions of biotechnology companies like Monsanto equally disturbing.

When an email about GMOs starts with a fact about school lunchrooms, I see an emotional and populist appeal that demonstrates a complete lack of willingness to dig deeply into the issue of GMOs and critically examine its many facets. In twenty minutes with a computer and Internet access – hardly deep digging – I found an entire semester-worth of work. Anyone receiving Food Democracy Now! presumably has both a computer and Internet, and could come to the same conclusion.

To my lunchmates the other day and to the campus at large, hear my plea: There is lots of work to be done around the issue of genetically modified organisms and their place in society. Please don't jump to emotional conclusions. Start reading, thinking and questioning. It's the only way we'll ever arrive at a rational, reasonable solution.



RACHEL FRANK

More than 12 student artists showcased their work at the Flicker event in the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts, Jan. 30.

THE REEL CRITIC

THE BEST FILMS OF 2013

By Oakley Haight

A fair number of these films are famous in one circle or another, but have yet to have the Middlebury Reel Critic stamp of approval. Now they can rest assured that they are truly the best films of 2013.

The Act of Killing: This is a movie that attempts to do no less than change our understanding of history. Its method might also change our understanding of how fact and fiction can be used in film. Director Joshua Oppenheimer says in an interview that the 1960s Indonesian genocide would be like murdering every intellectual in America and then making a national legend out of the murders, celebrating them for the next 50 years. The murderers say they stylize their past killings after Hollywood gangster movies; what Oppenheimer has done is cast those killers, now in their 70s, in a "fictional reenactment" of their murders. We see the murderers write and stage their past killings and then star as themselves, committing the murders again in a strange movie within the documentary. The result is something altogether new in film, something both real and surreal, containing a few of the most interesting and perplexing moments I've ever seen

in film. Who is acting here, and when? When are these people being honest and can they even know that themselves? Do these people feel guilty? If they do, how in the world could anyone possibly deal with such guilt?

12 Years a Slave: Steve McQueen's terrible and beautiful depiction of evil and injustice. It's a movie that has appeared on more top 10 lists of the year than any other, with a big-name cast and a big budget, and it's a movie that is far better than the moralizing Hollywood History Lesson it might appear. The politics of what it represents will win *12 Years* an Oscar, but what makes *12 Years* special is its lyrical photography, which allows us to watch Solomon Northup, after a botched hanging, dangle from a rope on a tree, between the earth and the sky, for an unbroken, silent 2 minutes, while Northup chokes and spits in his state of figurative and literal limbo. It's an apt metaphor for the movie's method in general, and just one example of McQueen's conviction and masterful artistic direction.

Stories We Tell: This is another documentary which pushes conventional filmmaking boundaries, and should be categorized in its own genre. *Stories We Tell* is concerned with the limits of narra-

tive and memory, as applied to the human ability to re-tell (or tell at all) the stories of our lives. It is neither cold nor conceited in its approach to such big ideas; this is about as personal a movie as can be made, with Polley interviewing her entire family about her parents and her childhood. The movie builds layer after layer of intricacy as everyone in the family has a different interpretation of the past. Polley somehow seems to give all of these voices equal credibility. There are many great surprises contained in the film; *Stories We Tell* remarkably seems to reinvent its entire structure to accommodate them. The film ends up as something like a love letter to Polley's father, poetic yet immediate and shockingly honest.

Inside Llewyn Davis: A supremely intricate meditation on the life of an artist and death in general, which also happens to be tremendously funny and watchable throughout. *Llewyn Davis* is one of the Coen Brothers' best movies. Though I've reviewed this film already, it's worth a second mention. See the full review in the Jan 22 edition of the *Campus* at middleburycampus.com.

56 Up: I feel a bond with the *Up* series like with no other films I know, and I suspect that many people who watch the

series feel the same. The films' enormous ambition is to document 14 people's lives every seven years, beginning when they were seven years old in 1960s London. This is a one-of-a-kind project with a staggering 49-year-scope that seems nearly impossible to replicate. *56 Up* continues the experiment in 2013 and finds the characters approaching retirement. Their challenges have changed but, of course, not diminished. These people's lives resemble my life and the lives of people I know; they face the same challenges and problems, and that is certainly a large appeal of the films. And yet, every entry in the *Up* series also contains impossible miracles and catastrophes that feel improbable in life – and then happen to all of the characters in all of the entries over and over again. It is impossible to know how close director Michael Aedpt comes to accurately capturing these people's lives. Surely no one can be totally summarized in a 3 hour film (or even 8 of these 3 hour films), and these people often tell us this on camera. But if Roger Ebert is right, if movies are the greatest empathy machine of any art form, then the *Up* series must surely be the masterpiece of his maxim and one of the boldest and most powerful projects in film history.

Pre-Draw Application Deadlines

February 16
Wellness House

February 18
Superblocks
New Social Houses

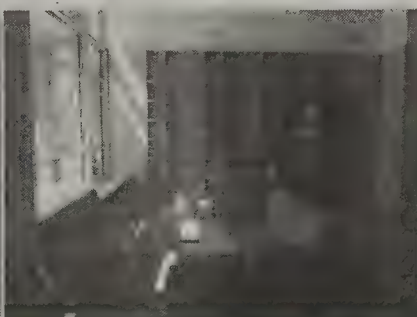
March 6
Senior Off-Campus

More info?
go/housing

Housing

2014-15

Where do you want to live?



Housing Fair

Feb 13

Crossroads

4:00-5:30PM

Bring Your Questions about:

Wellness House

Superblocks

New Social Houses

Sophomore Draws

Junior/Senior Draws

Off Campus Lottery

Mid-Year Returns

and anything else...

Class of 2017.5:



WE WANT YOU!

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journalism and a little bit of elbow
grease.**

Email campus@middlebury.edu

School Records Fall For Track & Field

By Fiona Maloney-McCrystle

The track and field team stayed busy over J-term and the duration of February break with three consecutive weekends of meets. On Jan. 24, the Panthers headed up to Canada to participate in the McGill Team Challenge in Montreal, a larger and more competitive meet than those in which they had competed previously.

One of the highlights of the two-day affair came when the women's 4x200 team consisting of Alex Morris '16, Jackie Kearney '16, Sara Sobolewski '14 and Lauren Henry '16 broke the Middlebury school record, with a time of 1:47.45.

"It's been incredibly hard this year without a track to build up any serious speed and turnover, so I don't think we had many expectations going into the race," Morris said. "We had never run together before as a relay team and that showed in our handoffs, but it's always a good feeling to break a school record. We all know that there's definitely a lot that can still be improved upon."

Laura Strom '14.5 also had a strong showing for the Panthers with her fourth place finish, while Emily Mellen '17 took 12th in the pole vault, Hannah Blackburn '17 finished 13th in the long jump and Morris placed 14th in the 600. On the men's side, Jason McCallum '14 took a

solid 5th in the pole vault, while Sultan White '17 finished 15th in the 60-meter hurdles.

The following weekend the Panthers were back in the United States, traveling to Hanover for the Dartmouth Classic on Feb. 1. On the women's side, Strom once again finished strong in the high jump, taking second with a mark of 5' 6". Morris and Blackburn also performed well again, taking second in the 400 and long jump, respectively. On the men's side, the 4x400 team consisting of Alex Nichols '17, Fritz Parker '15, Peter Hetzler '14 and Alex Ugorji '17 took second with a time of 3:25.49. Kevin Wood '15 took third in the 3k with a time of 8:41.23, while Bryan Holtzman '14, Luke Carpinello '16, and McCallum all finished fourth in their respective events of the 60 meters, 1,000 meters and pole vault.

This past weekend, Feb. 7 and 8, the Panthers headed south for their most competitive meet yet, Boston University's Valentine Invitational, which featured a flurry of sub-4:00 milers and some nation-leading times across the board. The day also brought a handful of stellar Middlebury performances, as Morris broke the standing school record by .8 seconds in the 400 meters, finishing in

57.54 seconds.

"The 400 I ran at BU was one of my best races because it just felt effortless," Morris said. "I've been dying to break 58 ever since I came to Middlebury, and was extremely frustrated last year when it never happened. To achieve it so early in the season is a great feeling as well as to break the school record, but for now I'm just focusing on each race and trying to enjoy every second of it."

The women's distance medley relay (DMR) team consisting of Alison Maxwell '15, Erzsie Nagy '17, Catie Skinner '17 and Morris also posted a solid time that placed them in the top 10 in the country, running 12:09.02 and taking sixth place.

On the men's side, the DMR team also ran themselves into a top 10 national ranking, as Sam Cartwright '16, Wilder Schaaf '14.5, Nichols and Carpinello posted a time of 10:05.05 in their ninth place finish. The men's team also saw another school record broken, as Holtzman bested his own mark from last year with a time of 22.25 in the 200 meters.

"Valentine is always a great meet featuring top level competition," Holtzman said. "Both the men's and women's teams had several standout performances and showed that the lack

of an indoor track is not going to stop us from putting up great times. Personally, I'm very happy with how I ran. I went down to BU two weeks ago to run the 200 and unfortunately false started, so to come back and put up an indoor personal best in my first shot at the distance is quite encouraging. I hope to continue to take off time in the coming weeks."

The Panthers have one more regular season meet at Tufts on Feb. 14 and 15. After that contest, their four week indoor postseason, in which each weekend brings a meet that is more difficult to qualify for.

"This year without having an indoor track and not having a normal training regimen, all of the January meets were all about competing ourselves into shape," Head Coach Martin Beatty said. "Now, in February, our last few regular season meets are focused on having people qualify into the championship meets and extending their season."

The Panthers will have their last chance to hit qualifying marks for DIII New England's this weekend at Tufts, and those who make the cut will return to action the following weekend at Springfield and MIT.

Men's Basketball Secures Key NESCAC Wins After Falter

By Joe MacDonald

The Panthers split their four conference matchups sandwiching February break, dropping a home game against Williams and a road game at Hamilton, over the weekend of Feb. 1. However, the following weekend the Panthers rebounded with two victories at home against Colby and Bowdoin on Feb. 7 and 9. In between, Middlebury took to the road and bested Keene State on Tuesday, Feb. 4.

Middlebury played possibly its most impressive half of basketball all season against eleventh-ranked Williams, scoring 41 points and holding the Ephs to just 25 first-half points. Hunter Merryman '15 opened the scoring for the Panthers, hitting his first three shots and tallying 11 points in the first 13 minutes of play.

The fast pace early favored the Panthers, who shot 50 percent from the field in the opening half, torching the Ephs' mixture of 2-3, 1-3-1 and man-to-man defenses.

Dylan Sinnickson '15 led Middlebury with 12 points on 4-5 shooting from behind the arc in the first half, many of those looks coming off of pick-and-roll sets with Joey Kizel '14, a play that the rest of the NESCAC has yet to effectively defend.

"The Williams game was a tale of two halves," Head Coach Jeff Brown said. "Offensively we attacked their 2-3 zone very effectively, but we weren't as successful against their man-to-man defense in the second [half]."

After the break, Williams began to cut into the Middlebury lead on the strength of its three-point shooting. Senior forward Taylor Epley made a handful of threes from NBA range, a shot that NESCAC Freshman of the Year candidate Duncan Robinson replicated. Trailing by three with five seconds left, the Panthers ran an in-bounds play from the sideline to get Sinnickson a three-point look, but his shot was contested and bounced off the iron, giving Williams the victory.

In Coach Brown's record-setting 434th game as head coach, Middlebury lost to Hamilton College on a last-second jumper on the road on Sunday, Feb. 2. Assistant Coach Russ Riley, who preceded Brown, led the Panthers from 1978-97 and previously held the record.

The Panthers were hamstrung by poor shooting in the first half, hitting only

10-33 shots from the field, while the Continentals poured it in at a nearly 42 percent clip, taking a five point lead into the half.

Hamilton opened the second half of play on a 12-3 run to go up by 14. The Continentals were carried in the second half by sophomore guard Matt Hart, who scored 21 of his game-high 30 points after the intermission. Toward the end of the contest, Hart hit three-pointers on three consecutive possessions to give Hamilton the lead.

"When a player gets hot like that the only way to stop him is to not even let him touch the ball," James Jensen '14 said, "I think it was pretty clear to everyone in the gym who Hamilton wanted to take the last shot of the game."

Kizel tied the game with two free throws with 29 seconds remaining. On the following possession, Jensen denied Hart the ball, forcing Hamilton senior Greg Newton to take the final shot. Newton made the go-ahead bucket with six seconds left, giving the Continentals a 76-74 lead. Middlebury was unable to get a clean look at the basket on the other end, Newton's shot thus sealing the contest in favor of Hamilton.

Kizel racked up 19 of his 22 points in the second half on 5-10 shooting (8-9 FT), including nine points in the final three and a half minutes. Merryman, Matt St. Amour '17 and Jensen joined Kizel in scoring double figures for the Panthers.

The Panthers celebrated the class of 2014 on senior night at home against Colby with a convincing 85-64 victory on Friday, Feb. 7. Heading into the game, both teams had three wins in the conference, so the win brought Middlebury one step closer to hosting a first-round NESCAC tournament game.

After the ceremonies concluded, Kizel poured in 30 points, matching a career high. The senior guard was successful hitting threes in transition, and nearly earned a double-double, racking up nine assists to go along with five rebounds and two steals.

Jack Roberts '14 led the Panthers with seven boards. Sinnickson aided the Panther attack with 20 points and six rebounds.

Middlebury took a 5-2 lead 2:17 into the first half and never looked back.

"The Colby game was the first time this year where we played two great halves and really put a team away," Sinnickson

said. "That's the only way games are won."

Middlebury played its last regular season home game against Bowdoin and squeaked out a 69-66 victory on Sunday, Feb. 9. Both teams impressed offensively in the first half, and the lead never stretched beyond five points either way in the first 20 minutes. The Panthers shot 48.1 percent in the first half, but were outshot by the Polar Bears, who shot 52.2 percent.

Roberts, who stands 6'8", had a tall order on Sunday afternoon, drawing John Swords, Bowdoin's seven-foot center. Swords is the most efficient scorer in the NESCAC, shooting at a 70.1 percent clip, and averaging 13.8 points per game to go along with 9.2 rebounds per game.

"Covering someone that size is always difficult," Roberts said. "We had a plan to limit his touches and we executed it well."

Swords surpassed his averages with 16 points and 13 rebounds on Sunday, but Roberts did a great job of fronting Swords and limiting his open looks at the hoop. Roberts was one of four Panthers in double figures (10), joining Jensen (10), Sinnickson (18) and Kizel (19).

With his seventh point of the afternoon, with 12:21 remaining in the first half, Kizel moved into fifth place on the Middlebury all-time scoring list, passing Ryan Sharry '12. Kizel, with 1424 career points, is 75 points away from reaching third place on that list. John Humphrey '88 is the all-time career scoring leader with 1844 points.

Middlebury's largest lead came with 18:45 in the second half when a three-pointer from Sinnickson put the Panthers

up by eight. The game remained close to the bitter end. Both teams traded free throws down the stretch, until Jensen went 1-2 with :08 left to give Middlebury a 66-63 lead. Bowdoin called a timeout, its last, with :05 left, giving the Polar Bears an inbounds place from the sideline. The ball came in to Matt Mathias who found his teammate Grant White in the left corner. White drained a three-pointer with :02 on the clock to tie the game.

The Bowdoin bench tried to call a timeout, but with its final timeout having been used seconds earlier, the Polar Bears were dealt an administrative technical foul.

"The whistle blew and I wasn't sure what was going on," Brown said.

Kizel made three free throws down the stretch, and Jensen blocked the last-second heave from Mathias, sealing the Panthers victory.

Between the two weekends of NESCAC play, the Panthers picked up 92-86 road win at Keene State on Tuesday, Feb. 4, in which Sinnickson recorded a double-double with 26 points and 12 rebounds. Kizel had 23 points of his own, Merryman had 14 points to go along with six boards, and Jensen tallied 10 points.

Unfortunately, the win came at a significant cost. St. Amour tore his right ACL in the first half, ending his season. St. Amour played in 20 games, starting nine, and averaging 9.2 points per game.

Middlebury will finish conference play this coming weekend with road games at Trinity and Amherst. The Panthers currently sit in third in the NESCAC, and a win in either game will secure a home game in the first round of the NESCAC tournament.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Conn. College	3-2 W (OT)	The women continue their recent dominance with an overtime goal from Sarah Ugalde '14.
MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Bowdoin	69-66 W	Men pull into a tie for third in conference with narrow win.
WOMEN'S SQUASH vs. Williams	5-4 W	Panthers clinch third in NESCAC tourney with win over Ephs.
MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Wesleyan	2-1 L	Panthers continue losing ways against Cardinals.
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Bowdoin	92-55 L	Women's hoops is bumped from NESCAC tourney contention with big loss.

Men's Hockey Stumble in Conference Play

By John Wyman

It is gut check time for the Middlebury men's hockey team (8-10-2) who will face four must-win games in the coming two weekends to salvage a season that never quite lifted off the ground. In the past three weekends, Middlebury lost to Bowdoin, then beat Colby and Tufts before losing three straight to Connecticut College, Trinity and Wesleyan. Despite the chilling results, the faithful can point to Middlebury's continued success in the shots category and recent stellar play from important leaders John Barr '14 and Ben Wiggins '14. Wiggins earned NESCAC Player of the Week honors for his three goal, two assist weekend against Bowdoin and Colby.

The NCAA championship banners hanging proudly in the Kenyon arena rafters put significant pressure on every edition of the Middlebury hockey team. This year, after losing seven of the past ten games, the team adopts an unfamiliar underdog mentality that may just become the missing puzzle piece to the team's inconsistent play.

Thomas Freyre '14 called the last two weeks "embarrassing" and candidly expressed the need for a "dramatic change across the board from seniors to freshmen" in order to compete in the postseason.

"We need to play like underdogs,"

Freyre said. "No team we play now is going to respect us, so we need to earn it."

The Panthers were seconds away from a signature win on the road against Bowdoin Jan. 25, but the Polar Bears prevailed in overtime. Goals from Wiggins, Ronald Fishman '16 and George Ordway '15 erased a Bowdoin lead. With two minutes left, Louis Belisle '14 gave Middlebury its first lead with a top shelf wrister on a five-on-three power play. Two inexcusable penalties from the Panthers let Bowdoin pull the goalie and bully in a rebound goal on their six-on-three player advantage. The home team slid in an overtime goal to send Middlebury packing.

At several points this season, team defense has tightened and the power play has excelled to lift the Panthers easily above quality opponents. Yet uncertainty at the goaltender position and lapses in the unique system still stifle the squad like a wet blanket.

Middlebury took out its anger on Colby on Saturday, Jan. 25 and Tufts on Friday, Jan. 31. Freyre assisted a tip-in goal

from Matt Silcoff '16, then stationed in front for a tip-in goal of his own to move a critical distance in front of the Mules. Derek Pimentel '15, who assisted the Freyre goal, scored one of his own, and two Wiggins goals completed the scoring.

The offense kept churning against Tufts. Skating on the open ice of a four-on-four situation in the second period, Barr rattled home a shot off the post and a minute later Belisle finished one of his own. Pimentel scored two goals in the third period, his ninth and tenth on the season.

In most respects, Middlebury deserved another victory against Conn. College The Panthers outshot the Camels 34 to 15. Mike Petchonka of Conn. College put on a show to limit Middlebury to just one goal, and Liam Moorfield-Yee '16 surrendered two on 15 shots to concede the game.

Against Trinity and Wesleyan, Middlebury dropped into two-goal deficits in the first period that proved insurmountable.

"Bad starts have been killing us all season," Freyre said, "We respond to the other team when we really should be

dictating the game ourselves."

Middlebury traveled to Hartford, CT to meet the eleventh-ranked Trinity Bantams on Feb. 8. The Panthers trailed 2-0 in the second period when Evan Neugold '16 brought Middlebury within one. Twenty-seven seconds later, Trinity again stretched their lead to two goals, and by the end of the second period the Bantams led 4-1.

Barr netted one for Middlebury early in the fourth, and with 13:28 remaining in the game Fishman made it a one-goal contest. The Bantams then sealed the deal with a fifth goal a minute later en route to the 5-3 victory.

Middlebury surrendered two goals twenty-one seconds apart in the first period at Wesleyan on Feb. 9. Thirty shots from the Panthers yielded only one late goal from Jake Charles '16 on an assist from Freyre.

Despite the recent skid, it is unfair to judge this team on wins and losses alone. If the team can use its adversity to motivate a positive run, Middlebury may just get hot at the right time and sneak another banner for the Kenyon rafter collection. Two back-to-back games against third-ranked Williams (9-3-2 NESCAC) make the road a difficult one for Middlebury, but Middlebury is confident it can defeat the Ephs and gain all the more momentum because of it.

"We need to play like underdogs. No team we play now is going to respect us."

THOMAS FREYRE '14
DEFENDER

Ski Teams Hit Rough Patch at Carnivals

By Courtney Mountfield

The Middlebury ski team had a busy past couple of weeks, competing in the UNH, UVM, and Dartmouth Carnivals. The Panthers placed fourth at UNH, third at UVM, and fifth at Dartmouth.

On day one at UNH, the men's and women's ski teams competed in the giant slalom event. Hig Roberts '14, Christopher McKenna '17, and Ghassan Gedeon-Achi '16 all finished in the top six. On the women's side, Yina Moe-Lange '15 led the Panthers with a second place run.

The top three performers for the women's Nordic team finished within five seconds of each other, taking home the sixth, seventh, and eighth places. Kelsey Phinney '16 edged out teammate Heather Mooney '15 by two

seconds in a time of 14:59, and Stella Holt '15 was close behind with a time of 15:04. The Nordic men – missing key senior Ben Lustgarten '14, who was competing in the U23 World Championships in Italy – came away with 13th, 32nd, and 36th place finishes in the 10K event.

The following day, Sunday, Jan. 26, the alpine teams competed on the second day of the UVM Carnival. Roberts paced the men with a third place finish, while Kara Shaw '15 was the top Panther woman, placing 16th.

In the Nordic competitions at UVM, the women starred on day one, winning the sprint event with three skiers in the top 10. Holt finished third, followed closely by Mooney. Phinney snuck in with a tenth-place finish. Austin Cobb '14 was the top men's finisher, coming in 10th.

On day two, Holt was successful again, placing fourth, while Cobb again paced the men. Middlebury placed third overall at the event.

The ski teams then travelled east to Dartmouth College to take part in their carnival, on Friday, Feb. 7 and Saturday, Feb. 8.

Roberts took advantage of favorable conditions to win the giant slalom event in a time of 2:02.59 while McKenna finished eighth.

Moe-Lange remained determined at Dartmouth where she earned her fifth top-10 finish of the year. Mooney led the Middlebury women in sixth place.

The team is finding that pacing itself is

becoming more difficult.

"The biggest thing for our team as a whole right now is resting and building energy back up for the coming weekends," Mooney said. "Although our racing season is short, it is really intense with two races each weekend for six weeks straight. Coming into the fifth week of carnival races, the fatigue is definitely building so the goal for this week is to take it easy and bounce back so we're on fire again at Williams."

Day two at Dartmouth was a mixed bag, bringing some great runs and some disappointing runs.

In the slalom event, the Middlebury men's alpine team came away with fifth, 11th, and 15th finishes and the women's alpine team crossed in at 21st, 26th, and 28th place. The Nordic women also had a poor day, finishing the 15K classic with 22nd, 26th, and 34th place finishes. The men's Nordic team did not do as hoped, as they took 26th, 40th, and 44th places in the 20K classic.

Next, the Middlebury ski teams travel to Mass. to take part in the Williams Carnival, which is held on Friday, Feb. 14th and Saturday, Feb. 15th.

"[We] will have a pretty normal week of training leading up to Williams," Roberts said. "The hill at Williams is steep so we will be focusing on the elements that make us fast on the steeps this week...As a team, we are looking to qualify as many teammates for NCAA's in Park City, UT. Also, getting top-three in the next carnivals as a team would be a great way to enter NCAA's."

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	CHANGE	TEAM
		Alex's Assertions
1		WOMEN'S HOCKEY <i>These girls are cooler than I am, and I'm okay with it</i>
2		TRACK AND FIELD <i>Some wicked fast times were dropped this weekend</i>
3		MEN'S BASKETBALL <i>Consistency is lacking but a clutch win against Bowdoin saves them</i>
4		SQUASH <i>Strong finishes at the NESCAC championships</i>
5		SWIMMING AND DIVING <i>A solid home meet sets them up well for NESCAC's</i>
6		SKIING <i>A frustrating weekend for the ski teams</i>
7		MEN'S HOCKEY <i>A winning record is slowly slipping away</i>
8		WOMEN'S BASKETBALL <i>A tough season for the Lady Panthers leaves a lot to be desired.</i>

BY THE NUMB3RS

11 National ranking for the Campus' own Alex Morris '16 in the women's 400 meter run.

25 Years since men's hockey finished with a losing record. They are 8-10-2 so far this season.

3 Middlebury skiing alums competing in the Winter Olympics in Sochi.

4 Shutouts this season for women's hockey goalie Annabelle Jones '15.

30 Points for Joey Kizel '14 in Friday's win over Colby.

Panther Swim Teams Finish Fast in Home Finale

By Kevin Yochim

The men and women's swim teams hosted the Middlebury Invitational at the Natatorium during the first weekend of February break on Friday, Jan. 31 and Saturday, Feb. 1. NESCAC opponents Williams, Amherst, and Tufts participated along with Springfield and UVM. As has been the case in past Invites, no team scores were kept during the meet.

"[The Middlebury Invite] is a great place for us to rehearse for NESCAC's and I think the results show that we have a lot to look forward to next weekend," Co-Captain Mike Oster '14 said.

The women displayed their strength first and foremost in the relay events, winning two and finishing in the top four in the rest. The team of Andie Tibbetts '14, Jennifer Koide '17, Jamie Hillas '15,

and Morgan Burke '17 won the 400-yard medley relay in 3:59.22, more than six seconds ahead of second-place UVM. Tibbetts, Hillas, and Burke also teamed up with Megan Griffin '16 to win the 200-yard medley relay.

Koide led the way for the women, winning the 200-yard individual medley in 2:11.62 and the 200-yard breaststroke in 2:25.04. Nora O'Leary '17 finished right behind Koide in the latter event with a time of 2:25.56.

Tibbetts, a senior captain, was also part of three victories, winning the 100-yard backstroke in 58.57 seconds in addition to her part in the two relays.

Also earning individual honors for the Panthers were Maddy Berkman '15 in the 200-yard butterfly (2:11.11) and O'Leary in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:08.81).

"We swam incredibly well overall,"

Tibbetts said. "It gives us the mental and emotional boost we need heading into NESCAC's."

The men's best race of the day came in the 400-yard medley relay, which they won in a time of 3:30.39, just ahead of rival Williams (3:31.00). Ian MacKay '14 led off with a time of 52.77 seconds in the backstroke, the second-fastest split of the event. He was followed by Stephan Koenigsberger '16 (breaststroke), who put the Panthers well in the lead with a split of 56.71 seconds. Teddy Kuo '15 (butterfly) and Paul Lagasse '16 (freestyle) were able to hold off Williams as the Ephs attempted a comeback.

Though the men did not win any individual events, they highlighted the team's depth with many top-five finishes. Michael McGean '17 was second in the 1000-yard freestyle with a time of

9:44.51. MacKay earned a second-place finish in the 100-yard freestyle, stopping the clock in 47.65 seconds.

The most impressive race of the day for the women was the 100-yard butterfly. The top four finishers were all Panthers, with Hillas finishing first with a time of 57.29 seconds.

The women are tapering their training this week in order to be ready for the NESCAC Championship, which will take place between Friday, Feb. 14 and Sunday, Feb. 16 at Williams.

The men, meanwhile, will have an extra week of training before their Championship meet, which will be held Feb. 21-23 at Bowdoin.

Both the men and women will hope to record qualifying marks for the NCAA championships, held March 19-22 in Indiana.

Squash Finishes Strong at NESCACs

By Stephen Etna

As the majority of the student-body enjoyed some well-deserved time off last week during February break, the Middlebury squash teams were hard at work. Playing not only an extremely competitive schedule but also being arguably the College's most well-traveled team, the squash teams spent their February breaks competing in both the NESCAC and Div. III Singles tournaments, with both the men and women turning in solid performances across the board.

In a prelude to their championship tournaments, the squash teams participated in a round robin at Yale before the NESCAC and individual tournaments. The women defeated their only Div. III opponent, Franklin & Marshall, while dropping matches to fifth-ranked Yale, 11th-ranked George Washington, and a close defeat to 10th-ranked Brown.

At the Yale meet, the men fared better, albeit against lesser ranked competition. Winning two of three matches, the men defeated number-20 Brown and George Washington, while losing a well contested match to 14th-ranked Navy.

Crucial to both teams' rankings, the weekend of Jan. 31 saw the men and women take on their NESCAC competition for the team conference championships.

The men, seeded fifth in the

conference, drew fourth-seeded Wesleyan in their opening game of the competition. Strong performances by Parker Hurst '14 and Andrew Cadienhead '17 buoyed the Panthers, allowing them to best Wesleyan by a score of 5-4.

The upset was not easily attained, as many of the matches went long. With multiple matches going to the fifth and decisive games, the Cardinals of Wesleyan did not make life easy for Middlebury.

The next game, against national powerhouse and top-seeded Trinity, would prove to be unfavorable to the Panthers, as the Bantams beat them soundly 9-0. Other than a strong performance from Andrew Jung '16 the Panthers were outplayed down the line from an exceptionally strong Trinity team that would similarly shut out Williams in the final to take the NESCAC team championship.

In consolation play for third place, the Panthers took on Bates. The Bobcats had an answer for Middlebury's usually formidable top half of the lineup, beating the Panthers' first through fourth singles players. Despite sound wins from Wyatt French '17, Reed Palmer '15 and Will Hanley '15, Middlebury would ultimately come up short and fall to Bates 6-3.

For the weekend, Middlebury finished fourth in the NESCAC, outperforming their seed, but still not the performance a talented roster such as Middlebury's is

capable of producing.

The women's team, also seeded fifth in the tournament, opened against fourth-seeded Hamilton. The Panthers put on quite the display in their opening match, defeating the Continentals by a score of 7-2. The lineup has clearly benefited from the return of the Dewey cousins, Charlotte '15 and Katie '15.

The next round found them taking on Trinity, who were seeded first in the women's bracket as well. The women fared no better than the men; Trinity, clearly the class of the NESCAC in squash, shut out Middlebury 9-0.

However, Middlebury would rebound strongly from this defeat and in the consolation game, beating Williams 5-4 to take third place in the NESCAC. With shutout victories from Charlotte Dewey and Zoe Carey '16, as well as a well fought come from behind victory at first singles from Abby Jenkins '14, the Panthers were able to take down the Ephs in a close matchup.

The strong play from the women continued in the inaugural Div. III Singles Invitational at Bowdoin College this past weekend. Sending Jenkins, Dewey, Carey and Saskia Pownall-Gray '16 to the top-tiered "A" flight, the women's delegation from Middlebury had a very strong showing.

Ranked 29th in the field of 32, Pownall-Gray scored the tournament's biggest upset, defeating Williams'

number-one player in the second round of play, before falling in the next round. Carey and Charlotte Dewey also breezed past their competition before falling in the quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively. The biggest splash, however, was made by Jenkins, who dominated all she played, losing only one game in match play on her way to taking the singles championship.

The men did not see that level of success from their representatives at the tournament, but Jung and Harrison Croll '16 turned in strong performances. In the "A" flight, Jung won his first match in three straight games, before falling in the round of 16. Croll, who entered the "B" flight, played sharply, winning his first two matches handily before falling to the eventual flight champion in the semifinals.

Both the men's and women's teams return to action for the Team Nationals tournament. The men travel to Harvard this weekend, Feb. 13-16, for the tournament. The following weekend, Feb. 20-23, the women will compete at Princeton.

For both squads, Team Nationals will provide one final opportunity to match up with top players from around the country with the intention of improving their national ranking.

EPHS PROVE LAST NAIL IN THE COFFIN FOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 24

were very tall, strong, and physical and we had to work hard to come up with our rebounds."

The second half was more of the same for Middlebury. The Panthers shot just 30 percent from the floor in the half, while Bowdoin played 15 of the 16 women on the roster and were still able to stretch their lead. The Polar Bears would go on to win by a final tally of 92-55.

Kirk and Knox were the only Panthers to score in double figures against Bowdoin, contributing 10 points each. Middlebury managed just 31 rebounds as a team on the day to Bowdoin's 41.

"We all knew Bowdoin would be a tough game and knowing we only had a few conference games left definitely added urgency," Knox said. "We all really wanted the victory, especially for our seniors who have worked so hard and put so much time and energy into our team."

With the loss to Bowdoin, Middlebury has been eliminated from contention for the NESCAC tournament. Sitting at 1-7 in conference play and in a tie with Colby for ninth place, the Panthers would lose head-to-head tiebreakers to both

Wesleyan and Hamilton for the critical eighth spot even if they were to win their final pair of conference games.

Back in action on Tuesday night, Feb. 11, for a home matchup with Suffolk, the Middlebury women again struggled, falling 56-53 in the seniors' final home game.

In first-half action, Middlebury struggled mightily from the floor, shooting just 18.9 percent in the period, including misses on all eight of their three-point attempts. Kirk's tenacity on the boards again was a bright spot for the Panthers, helping them to keep the game close even when the shots weren't falling. Middlebury went into the half trailing 22-16.

Coming out of the break, hot shooting from Marcus helped Middlebury crawl back into the game. Marcus hit a jumper with 2:06 remaining in the game to cut the lead to one at 50-49, but that would be as close as the Panthers would come. Timely free-throw shooting down the stretch helped Suffolk lock down the eventual victory.

Marcus led Middlebury with 18 points on 8-18 shooting, including going 7-11 from the floor in the second half.

Kirk finished with 12 points and 17 rebounds against Suffolk for another double-double, single-handedly helping Middlebury to keep the rebounding margin close. Forward Alexis Coolidge '15 added eight points off the bench for

Middlebury.

The Panthers wrap up their season with a tough pair of NESCAC road games, travelling to face Trinity and twelfth-ranked Amherst on Friday and Sunday, Feb. 14 and 16.



MICHAEL O'HARA

Scarlett Kirk drives to the hoop in the 60-55 loss against Williams on Friday, Jan. 31.

EDITORS' PICKS



ALEX MORRIS (28-24, .538)



FRITZ PARKER (29-32, .475)



JOE MACDONALD (24-28, .462)

Who will lead men's basketball in scoring in Sunday's game against Amherst?

JOEY KIZEL '14
Thank god for Joey Kizel.

Will women's hockey drop either game to Williams this weekend?

NO
I'll back any team against Williams.

Closest to: How many rebounds will Scarlett Kirk '14 pull down in women's hoops' matchup with Trinity?

11
Just to make it interesting.

Winter Olympics: Which country will sit atop the medal count after Sunday's competition?

CANADA
Great Britain has one bronze medal so far. Go us.

JOEY KIZEL '14
Kizel is going to have to create his own shots if the Panthers are going to hang with the Ephs.

NO
The women haven't lost a NESCAC game all season, so this seems like a safe bet.

12
Kirk is on fire, and I expect big things on her last weekend in Panther blue and white.

NORWAY
These cats ski like Alex runs. Amen, Joe Mac.

JOEY KIZEL '14
Sinnickson leads the team in PPG, but the senior captain is on a roll right now.

YES
My record says I'm usually wrong. So I'm wishing some good luck on the Panthers.

10
Kirk averages almost 10 per game. I expect at least that many.

CANADA
It's cold out there, eh? Also, it's a miracle that we were able to put this issue out.



With the season hanging by a thread, Joey Kizel '14 had a career-making weekend, scoring 30 on Friday, Feb. 7, and sinking a last second free throw (above) to seal the deal against Bowdoin on Sunday.

Women's Hockey Skate to Five Consecutive Wins During Break

By Joe MacDonald

The Middlebury women's hockey team kept its unbeaten streak alive through the end of February break; the women have yet to suffer a defeat through 14 games.

The Panthers defeated Bowdoin on Friday, Jan. 24 before tying the Polar Bears on the following afternoon. Middlebury then took two on the road at Hamilton on Friday, Jan. 31 and Saturday, Feb. 1. Middlebury played a mid-week game at home against Utica and won in a nail-biter, 5-4. Last weekend, on Friday, Feb. 7 and Saturday, Feb. 8, Middlebury outscored Conn. College 6-2 in two wins.

Katie Sullivan '15 opened the scoring for the Panthers 5:01 into the second period in their first meeting with Bowdoin, which Middlebury won 4-0. One minute and forty-two seconds later, the Panthers' lead had stretched to 3-0. Sara Ugalde '14 netted a power play goal with help from Emily Fluke '15, followed by a second goal from Sullivan. With 13:14 remaining in the third, a shot from Julia Wardwell '16 was tipped home by Katie Mandigo '16 for the game's final goal.

Middlebury's offense was less explosive on Saturday, Jan. 25 when the Panthers and Polar Bears fought to a draw. Bowdoin took the 1-0 lead halfway through the game on a rebound off of Annabelle Jones '15, who had 28 saves and has yet to suffer a defeat this season. Jennifer Krakower '14 scored the equalizer less than a minute into the third period while on a power play.

On Friday, Jan. 31, Middlebury dominated Hamilton in their first meeting. The Panthers recorded their fifth shutout of the season and outshot the Continentals 34-11. Middlebury was the beneficiary of ten power plays, scoring all three goals while on the man advantage. Mandigo, Fluke and Sullivan each tallied a score.

The next day's matchup between the two squads was more hotly contested, though Middlebury again prevailed, this time 3-2 in overtime. The Panthers took advantage of their power play opportunities, as they had the day before. With 14:20 left on the clock in the second period, Fluke gathered a carom off the boards and knocked it in for the 1-0 lead. Minutes later, a slap shot from Laura McConney '15 found the back of the net. Hamilton scored on a breakaway late in the second period, and tied the game with just over five minutes left to play in regulation. Seventeen seconds into overtime, Fluke tossed a backhand on net that the Continentals' goalie seemed to cover up, but the puck squirted through for the game-winner.

More Fluke heroics were on display on Tuesday, Feb. 4 in the Panthers' defeat of a visiting Utica squad. Utica took an early two-goal lead, but Krakower cut that lead in half late in the first period. After a power play goal from Utica, Krakower again responded with her own score on the power play, off of assists from Carly Watson '17 and Ugalde, making it a 3-2 game. Pam Schulman '17 tied the game when she netted her own rebound

in the last minute of the third period. Two goals from Fluke after the second intermission made it a 5-3 Middlebury advantage. Utica found the back of the net once more, but in the end the Panthers were victorious by a score of 5-4.

Middlebury's first meeting with Conn. College on Friday, Feb. 7 saw multiple shots in the period's final seconds. Conn. opened the scoring with 4:7 seconds left in the first period. Anna Van Kula '16 tipped home a shot from Victoria Laven '17 to tie the game in the second period. Fluke sent Middlebury into the second intermission with a 2-1 lead by finishing a rebound on a shot from Watson. After the Camels tied the game in the third, with time winding down, Ugalde scored the game-winner with :57 remaining in the contest.

Middlebury shut out the Camels the following day, 3-0. Mackenzie Martin '15 scored the first Panther goal. Teammates Sullivan and Fluke added to the scoring, securing the fourth shutout of the season for Jones. Back on the ice for a matchup with rival Plattsburgh on Tuesday, Feb. 11, the Panthers hit a roadblock that they could not overcome, falling 5-2 to the host Cardinals. While Middlebury jumped ahead early with a first-period goal from Jane Freda '17, Plattsburgh came roaring back with a trio of second-period goals to seize the lead. Jennifer Krakower added a late power-play goal for the Panthers – who were outshot 28-7 in the second and third periods – in the losing effort.

Women's Basketball Drop Games at Home

By Fritz Parker

The Middlebury women's basketball team went 1-2 in a trio of games over February break, picking up a narrow road win over Keene State on Tuesday, Feb. 4, before dropping a pair of NESCAC home games to Colby and Bowdoin on Friday, Feb. 7 and Saturday, Feb. 9.

Taking a five-game losing streak on the road to Keene State for a midweek matchup, the Panthers were able to overcome a slow start to edge the Owls by a score of 59-55. While struggling from the floor in the first half, Middlebury capitalized on their 24 free-throw opportunities – of which they converted 17 – en route to the win.

Scarlett Kirk '14 led the Panthers with 20 points and 18 rebounds for a double-double against Keene State. Middlebury needed all of the help that they could get from Kirk on a day which saw them outrebounded 53-36. Elizabeth Knox '17 added 11 points in the game.

The Panthers then played host to Colby in a matchup of two squads angling for the eighth and final spot in the upcoming NESCAC tournament. From the opening tip, the Mules were set on establishing their three-point game against the Panthers, hitting six of 13 from long range in the first half to jump out to a 37-31 halftime lead. Though dominant in the paint, Middlebury missed all six of their three-point attempts

in the half as they struggled to keep pace.

In the second half, the Mules continued to rain the three-ball, with over half of their attempts in the period coming from beyond the arc. While Kirk's toughness on the block continued to give the Panthers an edge under the basket, the Mules' efficiency from three was too much to overcome. Colby stretched their lead throughout the half and went on to win 79-61.

Kirk recorded another double-double in the game, pulling down 17 rebounds to go with 17 points. Guard Sarah Marcus '14 and forward Rachel Crews '15 had 13 and 11 points respectively for Middlebury.

In addition to an enormous three-point differential, the Panthers shot just 44 percent from the free-throw line in the game, including 11 misses in the second half alone that would have helped keep the game close.

Returning to action against 22nd-ranked Bowdoin, three-point defense was again a critical weakness for Middlebury. The Polar Bears were able to convert seven of 11 from beyond the arc in the first half alone. Defensive issues were compounded by poor shooting and rebounding from the Panthers, who fell behind early and went into the half trailing by 25.

"I think we did fairly well on the boards," Knox said. "They

SEE WOMEN'S, PAGE 23

INSIDE
SPORTS



MEN'S HOCKEY
DROPS THREE
STRAIGHT IN
CONFERENCE PLAY
PAGE 22



SQUASH TEAMS
FINISH STRONG IN
NESCAC TOURNEYS
PAGE 23